

CMS PTO Meeting

November 7, 2018

In Attendance: Dan Morgan, Blaise DiGirolamo, Alicia Tao, Judy Hamblin-Guedj, Holly Temple, Lovina Worick, Eva Gusdergsdottir, Angie Sullivan, April Hess, Cindy Schroeder

Agenda:

1. Voting on New Secretary
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Serve-a-thon – final thoughts and recap
4. Future PTO Funded Projects – opening discussion
5. New Parent/Old Parent Event
6. Funding Requests
7. Principal's Report

Meeting adjourned 7:52 am November 7, 2018

Introductions

Voting on New Secretary

Eva motioned to vote Lovina Worick in as the new Secretary. April Seconded the motion.
Approved

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer April Hess reviewed the budget (attached)
Explained the approximately \$4,000 teacher grants were to buy new cellos

Serve-a-thon - final thoughts and recap

Cindy Schroeder says Serve-a-thon is still happening but wrapping up
There's discussion about how to replace Cindy's role - leave it to subcommittees or find a replacement for Cindy's role?
Suggestion made that we find a parent who has a 6th grader as well as a younger child
Suggestion made that we add to serve-a-thon the ability for kids to choose/vote on which non-profit(s) their money should go to (from a list of vetted organizations) in order to give students a direct association with their having raised money and the impact of giving back
Suggestion made to put the money toward more activities for the kids
Blaise D. suggested that as long as there's a parent who is passionate about the activity – very interesting activities happen for the kids
Eva suggested we form a separate meeting of parents who might be interested in taking over Cindy's role in the serve-a-thon and while also asking for feedback on improvements for future serve-a-thons
Everyone agrees that it's a meeting that should take place in January (Cindy likely heading that meeting up)

Future PTO Funded Projects- opening discussion

April suggests we put PTO money in short-term treasury bills to earn money while it's not being spent

She's suggesting putting away \$60k

Dan Morgan says we should hold off as there are three major projects under consideration:

1. Expansion of sports court (approx. 40k for new concrete work) and stamp the new logo at the top of that as well as drop in basketball hoops.
2. Renovating the amphitheater - concrete benches with solar lighting - improve to make it an outdoor theatre. Be able to do outdoor strings concerts (ballpark price not known)
3. Climbing wall (\$40k) Panels and auto-belay system

April feels these are good projects as it appeals to different types of children.

Eva says next steps are to see if we can move forward with these projects.

And can we start the sports court right now?

April suggests: goal by year-end (2018) we start the process

Dan Morgan says that by next meeting he will have investigated next steps

Specific Funding requests

Dan says he and Blaise will make it a priority to get the starting information on getting the projects launched. Climbing wall yes or no?

*He will get these moving forward in next 2 weeks - find out timelines, money, start dates, etc. And **by next PTO meeting we can decide how much we will put away to earn interest.***

Blaise suggests we document the smaller spending to parent emails so they know where they money is going.

As well, he wants to be able to buy a large format printer so clubs/groups can create posters - he's looking into cost (maybe \$1,000). April suggesting that we look into asking how long that technology will last so it can be budgeted for the future.

Blaise also mentioned replacing our garbage systems - but that district may pay for parts (or all of this)

Dan Morgan presents other fund requests:

- Jessie Krislyn quilt squares: \$150 – **Approved**
- Postcards/stamps sent to parents and to rosicrucian museum \$200 – **Approved**
- Patrick Stadille - pollinator project and the monarch conservation project (that we have natural pollinating plants in our gardens). \$4,000 - to purchase native plants – **Approved**
- \$459.63 Portable 9x10 green screen (not sure who requested) - **Approved**
- Joe Guzzi: Rewarding those kids who participated in Inktober (kids can draw daily in library). Would like to reward those who had participated \$200 – **Approved**
- Mr. Ishler - his drills in industrial arts class are worn out. Needs drill drivers \$800 (There was discussion about why the district isn't replacing items like this since this is an academic class.) – **Approved**

- 24 kits of Lego Robotics for computer science. \$8,000 (full set) for computer class (Dan clarified that this is not a district class so that the district would not be funding this need). Currently we use block-coding lego robotics kit But is asking for Linear coding Robotics so that kids can actually learn to write code (vs. just block-coding) - **Approved**

Suggestion made that costs like Lego Robotics and Drills should be handled by the district going forward as these are instructional items and should be covered by the district. Dan clarified that the teachers CAN get funds for these types of expenses at the end of the year if there's teacher allocated monies not spent. Teachers can then ask for funds for certain needs but there's no guarantee.

Blaise giving heads up that school is working hard this year on behavior. Positive messaging is to build a culture of good behavior. Potentially want to use more cougar bucks to reward positive behavior. But that increases Climate/Culture costs as more rewards are going out (like ice cream). April suggested that kind of expense can just be reimbursed by PTO as/when needed.

Judi asked about having heard about the school possibly buying the empty lot next to CMS. Dan clarified it's the district who is possibly (most likely) purchasing. It was suggested that Judi and anyone interested can attend the District meetings.

New Parent/Old Parent Event

Eva reported out that we should be having a new parent/old parent event to have existing parents meet with new parents (vs. parents who know each other already meeting)

And can Carry Rasmussen spend \$200 for appetizers for this meeting at (possibly) Folktale Winery - Eva moving for this expense/April seconding – **Approved** (for all but alcohol. Alcoholic beverages should be purchased by any attending parent directly and won't be furnished by PTO)

Principal's Report

There was no Principal's report

Meeting Adjourned 9:37am

Next Meeting: December 5, 2018