



## Parent-Teacher Organization

### Meeting Notes

November 15, 2021

Held Via Zoom

#### 1. Welcome & Roll Call 9:03

- a. President – Laura Jester
- b. Vice President – Heather Farley
- c. Treasurer – Brenda Wood
- d. Senior Party Treasurer – Stephanie Heiberg
- e. Secretary - Nicole Trebil
- f. Calendar - Brenda Wood
- g. Communications - OPEN
- h. Event Coordinator – Kelly Robert
- i. Staff Appreciation – Sarah Fahning
- j. Student Directory -Jill Szczepaniak
- k. Social Media - Andrea Miller
- l. Volunteer Coordinator – OPEN
- m. Website – Tracy Bredehoft

#### 2. Approval of Minutes – ACTION ITEM

- a. October 11, 2021 (attached)

MOTION to approve minutes from Oct 11, 2021 PTO meeting by Heather Farley, second by Andrea Miller. Motion passes unanimously.

#### 3. Review Financial Reports – ACTION ITEM - Brenda and Stephanie

- a. November 2021 PTO Budget Report (attached)
  - Brenda reported about \$500 in revenue from directory sales
  - Heather to submit check from Red Savoy for \$120 to Brenda
- b. November Senior Party Budget Report (attached)
  - Meeting in January with vendors and increasing ticket prices by \$10/student

MOTION to approve 2021 PTO Budget Report by Heather Farley, second by Jill Szczepaniak. Motion passes unanimously.

#### 4. Mini Grant Program – Brenda

- Three grant recipients filled and the rest will be fulfilled in the coming months
- Brenda is waiting for photos that are approved to be posted

#### 5. Directory – Jill

- a. Update on results, any lessons learned?
  - 145 printed, 129 distributed, 16 left

- Jill is working on documenting instructions for future Directory Coordinator; discussed having only online orders next year.
- Laura to include in newsletter that extra are for sale

#### 6. **Staff Appreciation** – Sarah

- Report on October event with chair massages – Laura provided letter of reference for massage therapist at therapist’s request
- Thanksgiving week? Cute thanksgiving cookies and coffee
  - No coffee – doesn’t go over well
  - Need to find out how staff wants to be appreciated – food truck was a hit
  - Meals seem to have more attendance and nice to have at holidays – maybe offer during 2<sup>nd</sup> term conferences (Dec 15<sup>th</sup>); That day is long and staff will want something extra; could do Bucas
  - Sarah, Heather, Laura to write individual cards to teachers
- Balance of \$1000 for staff appreciation - Laura to request donations through newsletter

#### 7. **Report on What I Wish I Knew About College Planning Event** – Kelly

- Lizzie can’t locate recorded version. Kelly will help her find it.
- Well attended (85 people) and good amount of questions. Zoom platform is the way to go and parents like the convenience of it.
- Having financial planning and college planning back to back was also a good format
- Add in discussion about CRC resources for next year
- Try to have a parent of boys next year

#### 8. **Self Defense Event (“Not Me?”) Update and Options** – Kelly

- Decision to move on from using “Not Me” and use another provider
  - Tracy to change the calendar to reflect Self Defense and Healthy Relationship event
- We do NOT need to separate between gender
- Do we look into other seminars geared toward parents – teen mental health? Or, focus proactively on healthy, consensual relationships
- Social workers are a good resource to find out relevant topics that we can explore
  - Washburn Center is also a possibility
- Cornerstone is an organization that provides similar seminars but requires a mask mandate
  - \$300 cost from Cornerstone; they can customize programs
  - They do not offer self-defense content
  - Healthy teen dating, consent, and other topics
  - Try to include drugs in drinks/personal safety as well
- Discussed what gaps exist for kids and parents in this realm – need to understand what parents want to know
- Mental health is a huge topic that is likely separate from these; discussed addressing mental health resources and checking with other schools (like MTKA) on their programs for parents; PTO members should review EPHS weekly and EPHS website and offer feedback on mental health, social worker resources – are they clear? What’s missing? A flowchart or “if this, then this” format
- Explore a self-defense seminar in conjunction with Cornerstone seminar
  - MKJA.us David Toft may be an option for combative training seminar

**9. Update on Resource Centers and Volunteers – Laura**

- a. ERC and BRC are only centers currently using volunteers; SignUp Genius created; Laura is going to check in and make sure it is going well

**10. Principal's Update – Robb**

- a. Laura to check and see if the time of our PTO meeting needs to change based on his schedule
- b. EP Connects Update
  - Evaluate usefulness, frequency, topics, necessity
  - PTO to link and promote EP Connects dates
  - Mental Health Topic
    - 1. Student group available
    - 2. We have more need than we have resources
    - 3. Brenda to talk to Robb offline about ideas
- c. PTO Link on Website
  - Robb to investigate
- d. December conference decision on online vs in person happening soon
  - Parents were split between the two but online was more attended

**11. Communication – Laura and Andrea**

- a. Weekly Newsletter – ideas for content welcome
- b. Social Media – ideas for content welcome; can help promote EP Connects

**12. Website – Tracy**

- a. Updated calendar and NOT ME event
- b. Fall conference appreciation needs to be changed; add Dec 15<sup>th</sup> meal celebration.

**13. Other Business**

- a. President's Council – Laura/Brenda/Heather
  - Transportation appreciation still happening
  - Need to fill gaps in food service in the schools
- b. Kelly to advertise the open volunteer positions on MSL website.
- c. Planters – Sarah
  - Adding some more details and then they will be done
- d. PTO Meeting schedule
  - September 13, 2021
  - October 11, 2021
  - November 15, 2021
  - January 10, 2022
  - February 7, 2022
  - March 7, 2022
  - April 4, 2022
  - May 9, 2022

**14. Adjourn 10:54**

**Submitted by Nicole Trebil, EPHS PTO Secretary**