

PTO General Meeting 9/5/18

Mrs. Ullum, Nikki, Logan, Matt, Marissa, Sandra, Alexa Introductions

Last meetings minutes approved and posted online GHCS D site.

Old Business

-Art to Remember. Spring activity. Monies voted to go directly to Mrs. Bova who is solely in charge of creation and distribution. Co-chair will be Sandra Binning.

-Art Appreciation is a new committee continuing the work of Five Columns Project. Line item created to support this activity. PTO donation of \$850. Each artist works with a teacher or grade level.

New Business

-Budget reviewed. Taxes; accountant filing fee paid. Current balance is \$35k plus \$400 misc. Emergency fund. MAT fundraiser is our major source of revenue generating \$14k last year. Monies earmarked to complete/ continue library renovation. Lego wall, green screen.

-Big Lots \$5k donation was used to kick start the updates. Member suggested reaching out to Big Lots to help "sponsor" specific projects in the future.

-Budget Approved.

-Revising PTO bylaws to include MS/ HS and change meeting requirement from six to four.

Principal's Report

-Additional teacher added to 1st grade team two days before school. Better to add before school started, rather than after kids were settle. Great decision, smaller classes. Mrs. Parnell full time and new teacher doing great.

-Officer Phil visited. Two successful fire drills, ALICE training continues, Julia Cook children's book is a great resource. "I'm not scared, I'm prepared". Lockdown drills are required to be surprise with a follow up email to caregivers afterwards. Evacuation drill is when children leave the building and go to another safe spot nearby.

-Morning Meeting. Reviewed assigned seats at lunch. Kiddos are assigned in order to encourage meeting new friends. At recess, they can play with friends.

-iPads . Each class has a set. Children are given individual logins. iPads used by teachers to differentiate and accommodate all skill levels, opportunity to challenge higher level learners easily. Used in centers as enrichment and engagement tool.

-Discussion by members on how technology is used in classrooms. Is it necessary and does every child have to use it? Teachers asked to possibly give more in depth and further explanation of tech is used practically in classrooms. How much time do kiddos spend on iPads? Examples of student use: Creating research slide shows collaboratively with other students and sharing. Alternative to paper and pencil (voice recording), that might be a challenge for some students. Lexia and Tenmarks.

-Further discussion needed suggested on headphone use/ effects.

-Events update. Ice cream Social and Welcome Coffee successful, Walking Wednesday and Staff Appreciation (monthly) ongoing.

Upcoming Events.

-Move a Thon. Packets come home 9/28. Event is 10/10 and follows National Walk to School Day community walk from the GHPL on Walking Wednesday.

-KNO. Monthly 9/21, 6-9, cost \$15 goes to snacks and teachers, who staff rooms.

-Book Fair. Volunteers needed!

-Author Visit. Coordinated by Mrs. Jump. TBD

-Family Fun Night. New event! Pumpkin Carving

-Party Coordinators and volunteers needed. Halloween parade at end of school day.

-Election Day Bake Sale. Cookies needed!