

AG Middle School PTO Executive Board Minutes

September 4, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

Those in attendance were Jennifer McCarthy, Catherine Hensley, Amy Godwin, Katharine Bolt, Stephanie Leo, Mary Lunsford, Jane O'Donoghue, Lauren Ball and Julie Steffens.

President Welcome and Introductions

Jennifer McCarthy welcomed the group, reviewed meeting procedures, reviewed the transition from PTA to PTO and facilitated brief introductions. Including the introduction of guest speaker – Mike Primiani, CMS Community Partnership Coordinator.

Mike Primiani oversees and supports the 7 feeder schools for Myers Park High School regarding community partnership. He works with school administration, staff and students to assess the needs of everyone. His job is to find partners; private or public companies, faith based institutions or other charitable organizations to fulfill those needs.

He stated that a culture change is required in terms of perception verses the reality of the needs. Also, he has found that fiscal asks are less effective than time/talent asks of the community. His goal is to assist the PTO to offset costs. He will work with Bob Folk to communicate needs.

Catherine Hensley asked for help with campus beautification. Jennifer McCarthy asked the board to let the Presidents know the needs of the PTO and they will find out if Mike can help.

Opening Business

The minutes from the May General PTO were approved.

The PTO calendar is updated with accurate dates.

Jennifer McCarthy described the PTO organizational structure and how committees are divided between she and Catherine Hensley. Pertinent information will be brought to the board.

Treasurer Report

Jane Donoghue reviewed the 2014-15 PTO Budget and gave an overview of the income and expense categories. The carry over from the prior fiscal year (PTA) was \$42,121.00

Jane Donoghue reviewed the importance of vendors being billed directly as opposed to writing reimbursement checks to parents. PTO can get reimbursement of the sales tax on vendors.

It was reported that Bulldog Sports Club has collected \$21,260. Jennifer will make sure the Bulldog Clubs has a treasurer to oversee the money.

Jane stated the PTO is not in the school uniform business anymore. Some old inventory was sold at Open House at a discount. Those funds (\$921) will be put in a separate line in the budget under Bulldog Sports. Mrs. Goodrum will make expense requests from that fund for the PE Dept. Jane will tell Mrs. Goodrum to keep a spreadsheet.

Stephanie Leo had questions regarding the carry-over line for Yearbooks. Jennifer McCarthy asked to table the discussion so Jane and Stephanie can discuss at a later time.

Expenses: Jane met with Bob Folk to discuss needs based on his plans for the year for the budget lines under Direct School Expenses.

The 2013-14 audit report was approved.

Assistant Treasurer Report

Jane Donoghue gave the report for Lauren Ball, who came in later. The Consolidated Payment Forms are being collected. 52% have been collected at this point. The dollar amount is \$42,410. The PTO dues collections are ahead of last years at this time of year.

Presidents Report

Jennifer stated the grade level committees are working together and each grade has a \$2500 budget. Each grade is planning trips and events. Jennifer stated Middle School Matters has an upcoming event in October. It is publized in the Bulldog Bulletin.

Catherine said each grade has information posted via the Bulldog Bulletin separately.

Jennifer asked Bob Folk about the purchasing of combination locks on the Consolidated Payment Forms sheet. Bob restated that in order to get a locker, the student must purchase a lock. Katharine Bolt suggested listing the lock on the school supply list.

Jennifer discussed the General PTO agenda.

Past Presidents Report

Nothing to report.

Invest in Excellence Report

Amy Godwin is waiting for Bob Folk's approval on the Invest in Excellence letter. The skit to promote Invest is being filmed and will be shown at Curriculum Night. The skit and information in the Invest letter will highlight items purchased for the school.

Principal Report

Security Update –

Bob Folk reported all new security cameras are up and active. He wants access viewing for laptops but must wait for district approval for the app to be purchased.

Also waiting on district approval on auto lock doors for the exterior doors on campus buildings. Once it is approved, a new traffic pattern for carpool drop off will be established.

Personalized Learning Update –

Bob created a New Standard Plus class. In some students, it was apparent there is a disconnect between class performance and standardized tests. The material is the same as the honor class, but class size is smaller. The goal of the new class is to develop executive functioning skills in the student. The other goal is to have better strategic teaching. Bob is also implementing the same goals in the standard classes. So far the feedback from the parents has been positive.

Campus Enhancements and Athletic Fields Update –

Bob reported on the many campus enhancements that happened during last school year. His priority for this school year is to replace the concrete benches in the front of the school with black alumni ones.

Football Field. The field is to be used by AG football and boys/girls lacrosse club. The lacrosse club paid for half the seeding costs.

The field is no longer in control of the Community Use of Fields through the city. Bob is in control of the field. No one can use the fields on the weekend for organized practices unless approved by Bob.

Bob would like Dilworth Little League to take over the maintenance of the Baseball/Softball fields. Katharine and Amy will ask their contacts at Dilworth if they want to establish a partnership with AG.

Other topics -

Stella Barefoot is transitioning off as leader of Bulldog prayers. Bob asked for another parent volunteer to take over this role. Catherine will follow up with Stella.

Upcoming Dates

September 10, noon: PTO General Meeting & Committee Chair Meeting

September 22, 4 pm: SLT Meeting

September 23, 5:45 and 6:30 pm: TD Parent Meeting and Open House/Curriculum Night

October 2, 8:30 am: PTO Executive Meeting