

MES PTA Meeting Minutes
Wednesday February 10, 2021
6:30-7:20pm via Zoom

In attendance: Unnati Patel, Ms. Lacy, Mrs. Camuto, Mrs. Scotti, Mr. VanHise, Mrs. Heintz, Jennifer Harris, Chris Hoffman, Jaime Gostkowski, Jennifer Lafaman, Maria Ryan, Jennifer Volfson, RoseAnn Sands, Samantha Strickland, Nicole Cherie, Alex Clarke, Greg Brown, Ewa Bialobrzeski

PTA Administrative Business

- Meeting called to order by Unnati at 6:34
- Approved minutes from January's general meeting

Monthly Reports

OHES Report - Mr. VanHise

- Milan Rose information has been sent out to the teachers
- Virtual Day of Play was successful
 - SEL team does a great job
 - Hope it is found to be equal parts engaging and fun
 - Global Day of Play was Feb 3
- Kindness Challenge was in weekly announcements
- Valentine's parties and 100th day of school coming up
- Equity website up and running
- Black History Month - black history is our history and should be highlighted always
 - Teachers have been provided with comprehensive resources
- Pre-K and K students can start using the playground once the snow melts!
 - Hope to phase in older grades if all goes well
- Combining cohorts has no firm date but are preparing the building
 - Have teams working on it and think tank sessions

VES Report – Ms. Lacy

- Carrie and Sofia Fox author visit "Adventures in Kindness"
 - 4th grade virtual interactive presentation
 - Thanks to the PTA for purchasing 4 books for the library
- 4th grade choral concert
 - Virtual - was very well done and really nice
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion website launched
 - Many topics and resources available
- Valentine's Day Parties and 100th day coming up
- MLK Play went well - Thank you to Jen V!
- Kindness Bowl coming up - usually Souper Bowl but was snowed out
- Lunar New Year - students sharing celebrations on the morning news
- Kindness week will be week after President's Day

- 4th grade author visit with Gordon Korman on Feb 24 at 1:00
 - Hosted with Mary Jacobs Library
 - Free with the safe schools initiative
- March 3 author visit with Gita Varadarajan
 - Thank you to PTA for helping to support
- Plans moving forward to combine cohorts

VES Teacher Report - Mrs. Heintz

- Thank you for the books that were received into the classrooms
 - Did everyone receive? Mrs. Heintz to send out a survey to check
- Thank you for helping to support the plays and author visits - while they seem like little things, they mean a lot to the kids and they help break up the days.
 - It is something different and special

Co-President Report - Unnati Patel

- Please submit pictures for the yearbook - 100 days of school coming up
- MSEPTA, PTA, PTO and PTSA all helped support the Mindfulness workshop
 - About 20 elementary school families attended
 - Got good feedback
 - Talking about doing a spring event with all the PTAs
- Lots happens behind the scenes that isn't always visible
 - Kids Art, Book Fair at VES and Yearbook are currently in the works

Treasurer's Report – Chrissy Hoffman

- All numbers as of Feb 2, and amounts are what have cleared in the bank so may be a bit different than stated with the committees
- Income:
 - Members: 168 + 22 staff = 190, \$2630
 - Yearbook: OHES \$3552.50, VES \$3876.65
 - Charleston Wrap check received: \$2586.60
 - Shop With Us: \$55.92
 - Box Tops: \$373.20
 - Spirit Wear: \$1684.24
- Expenses:
 - We the People Assembly for 4th grade: \$400
 - 1st teacher grant paid: \$612.71

MSEPTA – RoseAnn Sands

- Next meeting Feb 16 at 6:30
- Fundraising: Cake Pop and Paint Your Own Cookie kits starting Mar 1
 - Clothing drive will be done again in the spring
 - Encourage people to help by being a drop-off point
 - Poshmark handbag sale is still running
 - Funds go towards scholarships and grants

- SEPAG Zoom Presentation Feb 24 6:00-8:00
 - Help facilitate parents with IEP
 - Enews has the details

Nominating Committee - Unnati Patel

- Looking for members to volunteer now through March meeting
- Please help spread the word
- Send email if interested

Yearbook – Unnati Patel

- Milan Rose to open studio for portraits again
- Yearbook sales will open again
- Admin and teachers please remember to do the Google Meet class photo

Storybook Sessions – RoseAnn Sands

- Will start promoting next week
- Feb 26 at 5:00
- 35 mins long
- Interact kids will be acting out stories suggested by Mrs. Ballard and checked out from the OHES library
 - Mrs. Ballard and Kristin Taylor will read a book this time
- YaYa Noodles will donate 10% of lunch and dinner sales if say from the school
- Event geared to Pre-K, K and special needs but all are welcome
- Will use Room Parents, Enews and facebook to get the news out
- Planning to do again in April and June
 - Looking for help

VES Book Fair - Unnati Patel

- Coming up in March
- May try to do hybrid or virtual

New Business/Announcements/Questions

None

Next meeting Wednesday March 10 @ 6:30

Link will be sent out week of meeting

Meeting concluded at 7:09