

MES PTA Meeting Minutes
Wednesday December 9, 2020
6:30-7:20pm via Zoom

In attendance: Jenna Huntley, Yuna Kim, Ms. Lacy, Mrs. Camuto, Mrs. Scotti, Mr. Rooney, Ms. Heintz, Jennifer Harris, Unnati Patel, Chris Hoffman, Jennifer Lafaman, Maria Ryan, Asma Ahmed, Jennifer Volfson, RoseAnn Sands, Patty Bajaj, Alex Clark, Jackie Merritt, Ewa Bialobrzkeski, Abelardo

PTA Administrative Business

- Meeting called to order by Jenna at 6:33
- Approved minutes from November's general meeting

Monthly Reports

OHES Report - Mrs. Scotti

- Received positive feedback from the virtual parent-teacher conferences
- On Friday we had our first school-wide virtual assembly
 - ~600 students participated
 - Was fun
 - Mrs. Bower's pet won the vote and Mrs. Bice's dog won most resilient pet
- School had PJ day on Friday to support CHOP - raised over \$5000!
 - Parents please upload photos for the yearbook
- Planning a food drive in the winter months
- Virtual day of play is being planned for Dec 23
- District survey just went out to choose if would like hybrid or virtual Jan 19-Apr 16
 - Due back Friday Dec 11
- Will have open registration for Kindergarten Jan 25-Feb 12

VES Report – Ms. Lacy

- Hope you all had a great fall recess and/or Thanksgiving
- December is trustworthiness month and will look at human rights and how different cultures celebrate the holiday season
- John Marshall weather assembly for the 3rd graders went very well
 - Thank you to the PTA for supporting
- Raised \$1223 for Unicef (usually raise ~\$3000)
- Young Scholars fundraiser going on now (25th year we have supported them)
 - Only collecting gifts this year, no clothing or food drive
 - Can drop off gifts Monday or Tuesday afternoon at the school
- Dec 17 will have afternoon of mindfulness and play
- Will have holiday activities instead of class parties but room parents are to reach out to teachers to see if they need any help
- Offered 2 free author assemblies in the new year
 - Dan Gutman @ 1:00 on Jan 7

- Gordon Korman @ 1:00 on Feb 24
 - Will have to do some creative planning for the hybrid students since that is in the middle of our dismissal time
 - We are not in charge of date or time so need to make this work
- Gita Varadarajan, author from last year has agreed to \$150 for this year.
 - Need to confirm
- Cary Fox author of Adventures In Kindness will provide a free assembly for the 4th graders
- Jenna to follow up to the emails that she sent to the other authors

OHES Teacher Report - Mr. Rooney

- Mrs. Scotti covered it all
- Miss Nora has been trying to help families in town by collecting things they needed
 - Reached out to the Young Scholars program and they provided the items needed very quickly
 - Looking forward to joining VES to help support Young Scholars in the future

VES Teacher Report - Mrs. Heintz

- Thank you for the wishlist

Communication Sheets - Jenna Huntley

- Made a sheet for each school that contains all contacts that you may need
- Will post it on all of the platforms
- Admin to send out in an eblast

Treasurer's Report – Jaime Gostkowski & Chrissy Hoffman

- Numbers based on Dec 2
- Membership 159 and 18 staff = \$1824.28
 - Paid state portion of \$616
- Amazon Smile July-Sept \$91.82
- Miscellaneous - pizza proceeds from BooBash \$150
 - Monty Gives \$185
- Spirit Wear \$1640.57
- Paid \$1000 for weather assembly at VES
- Paid \$100 for teacher and staff appreciation care packages
- Paid \$580.50 for tax preparation and state fees

MSEPTA – RoseAnn Sands

- Next meeting is Dec 15
- SEPAG met this week - establishing mission statement and goals
 - Questionnaire for parents of children receiving any services and covers a variety of areas has a deadline of end of December
- Clothing and shoe collection until December 15
- Selling gingerbread making kits for \$15 - should be delivered soon

Charleston Wrap - Jennifer Lafaman

- Ended on Monday
- Overall very successful considering
- Was passive and pretty simple with only a few hiccups
- Brought in \$6838.58 of which we get 25%

Spirit Wear – Jenna Huntley

- 55 orders
- Profit of \$923.44
- Ended last week
- Can open again after the holidays
- Orders were shipped out Monday

Monty Gives – Jennifer Volfson

- Anonymous family will donate up to \$2000 to match community donation
- Currently at 75% of our goal
- Started Dec 1st and ends this week, Dec 15th
- “Bringing us together even when we are apart”

Holiday House Lights Drive – Maria Ryan

- Up and running
- Over 20 houses that have been divided by area
- Voting document with 10 different categories
- Montgomery Township and Hillsborough Township are doing ones too

Room Parents - Maria Ryan

- Still some classes without room parents
- Karen Jeffers, VES coordinator and Panina Z, OHES coordinator
- Lots of communications have gone out so far
- Can room parents use the Genesis PTA email list?
 - Can be broken down by class
 - Room parents are under the umbrella of the PTA so can be given the Genesis created lists
 - Will be sent by the Vice Principals

Storybook Sessions - Roseann Sands

- Dec 17 at 6pm
- Closing registration on Dec 14
- Highschool interact kids doing reenactments of books chosen by the librarians
 - 4-6 minutes pre-recorded stories
- Advertising to Pre-K, K and designating special needs classes but all children are welcome
- Will replicate in Feb, Apr and Jun

- Alfonso's is offering PTA 20% of purchases from those who mention the PTA, storybook sessions or show the flier on Dec 17

Montgomery Interact - Yuna Kim

- Offering tutoring
- Has been so amazing so far! Very engaging!
- All information available online, and in newsletter
 - Jenna will bump up on facebook
- They seem to have multiple people checking the email so emails don't always get returned. Try to email them again if don't hear back
- Councillors are going to reach out to them for some struggling students
- The Jewish center of Princeton has also reached out to Ms. Lacy about an 8th grader who is looking to fulfill community service hours by virtually helping kids
 - If know of anyone who would like tutoring/games from someone younger please reach out

New Business/Announcements/Questions

Next meeting Wednesday January 13 @ 6:30

Meeting concluded at 7:20