



Minutes of PTO Meeting – October 28, 2019

Present:

Mr. Cross- Principal	Wendy Essenburg
Lisa Gaglio- Teacher Representative	Patricia Graunstadt
Tara Colussi	Sonia Piggott
Mary Ference	Mary Frederick
Sue Kumar	
Susan Holle	
Kelly Martin	
Kristin Kennaugh	
Colleen Geyer	
Jennifer Molotky	
Martin Molotky	

1. Welcome

- a. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President, Tara Colussi. Mr. Cross welcomed all and introduced Dr. Machesky.

2. Dr. Machesky's Fall Update

- a. **New websites** in TSD – goal is to showcase more of what's happening across the district – want to “tell our story”. Can now add video content and photos.
- b. **Student achievement** is primary goal.
- c. **World Class Wednesday** – another way to tell our story.
- d. **Enrollment is 13,100 students** – an all time high. Budgeted for 13,050 students. The growth is starting to flatten out. Michigan is a state whose birthrate continues to decline.
- e. **Spent over \$20 million this summer in TSD.** We are on the 3rd series of the 2013 Bond.
- f. **Funding from the state** is \$9195 per student. In 2007-08 we received \$9467. We are doing more with less. Funding has not kept up with inflation. If the state matched the inflation rate, we would be receiving \$12,080 per student. This is a \$2885 per pupil deficit.
- g. **Opened the new preschool this year.** \$23 million facility. Sold property to pay half and mortgaged the other half which will be paid for by the revenue.
- h. **Niles Building** is at the end of its useful life. TSD to purchase the ITT Building on Big Beaver Rd. Closing to happen in December, then renovations. Niles to be demolished and the land will be green space and some additional parking for the preschool.
- i. **Parent Questions addressed**

3. Approval of September 23 Meeting Minutes

- a. Group reviewed the meeting minutes from September 23 PTO Meeting. Motion to approve minutes as is made by Colleen; Seconded by Wendy.

4. Principal's Report: Mr. Cross

- a. **Social Studies** had a visit from a cartoonist.
- b. **ALICE Training:** started on October 8. Tiered approach this year. Started with an introductory video. January 14 drill planned – will stay in the classrooms and talk about enhanced lockdown which is when the students reposition themselves in the classroom and

reinforce/barricade the door. The final drill will be a scenario-based lockdown where there are choices depending on what's happening in the building.

- c. **Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences:** 61% of parents attended.
- d. **Parent Engagement Night:** 25 parents participated at the event. The parent volunteer signup sheets were also set out at Conferences. Next year, will do the parent engagement night during the first 2 weeks of school.
- e. **Spirit Week this week.**
- f. **Pillars:** Looking at the Gold Pillar and planning professional activities for the staff.
- g. **Microwaves:** follow-up to last meeting's request for additional microwaves in the cafeteria. Did research and determined that Maintenance & Operations said it's okay and there is space in the built-in cabinets for 2 additional microwaves. Mr. Cross supports the request.
- h. **Fundraising ideas:** PTO has asked Mr. Cross what a good fundraising idea would be. Wanted student input.
Student ideas:
 - Water filling station – Mrs. Gaglio shared that Mrs. Avery is also suggesting this
 - Moving exterior benches to the Library patio
 - The Green Team is looking at planting trees
 - Umbrellas on the patio tables for shade
 - Ice Machine for athletic games (Mr. Cross added to the list)

5. **Presentation from student Anthony Molotky on a Water Filling Station (hydroflask refilling station)**

- a. Anthony represented the students with their request for a water filling station with a motion activated sensor. Presented a petition in favor signed by 325 students.
- b. Key benefits: filtered water, motion activated, drinking fountain attached. Mr. Cross stated that the building could support 4 stations.
- c. Costs of a station range from \$500-\$1800. What are installation costs? Question asked about TSD assisting with costs. Mr. Cross reported that he told Dr. Machesky that Baker does not have a water filling station and Dr. Machesky was surprised.
- d. Mr. Cross to look at needs assessment and will draft a proposal.

6. **Teacher Representative Report: Mrs. Gaglio**

- a. 2 more teachers joined PTO.
- b. **Box Tops:** Asked teachers to solicit box tops. Teachers wanting to know about the rollout of digital box tops. Tara stated that paper box tops to continue to be collected until reach expiration dates.
- c. **8th Grade Science:** reported they believe many students will need a second graphing notebook. Would like to have stock available in the Bob Shop.
- d. **Parent Book Club:** Katie Taylor wrote a note on behalf of all teachers thanking for the treats during conferences and to make sure we are aware of the new Parent Book Club. Book Club signups were set out at Conferences.
- e. **Band dates:** Dr. X wants parents to know that the Fall Band Concert is Wednesday, October 30. Deadline for the Solo and Ensemble Festival registration for 7th and 8th graders is November 4. The annual cookie dough/popcorn fundraiser is 11/7-11/22 – please no competing fundraisers during this time.

- f. **Social Studies and Urban Sprawl:** 6th grade Social Studies is learning about urban sprawl and will look at Troy. Will do a project on undeveloped land in Troy that includes a visit from the Director for the Troy City Planning Office. Great real-world learning opportunity.
- g. **Troybery Award Program:** presented a letter from Ms. Loch of the Media Center requesting the continuation of PTO's \$500 contribution towards the Troybery Award Program. This is the 20th year of Troybery and are planning a special ceremony. If additional PTO funds available, requests \$100-\$500 to offset author visit at the ceremony.

7. President's Report: Tara Colussi

- a. **Teacher Grants announced.** Able to fund 12 Grant requests totaling \$2086.

8. Treasurer's Report: Sue Kumar and Mary Ference

- a. Shared the following items regarding the financial report: Bob Shop took in \$896.65 in October. Awaiting final money for the Color Run. Concessions took in \$258 in October. Received an additional \$110 for the direct donation fundraiser which puts us at \$2886 total.

9. Committee Reports:

- a. **Baking Committee-** Kelly reported that the Baking Committee provided treats for the Teachers at Conferences.
- b. **Bob Shop-** Kristin reported that the Bob Shop is making money.
- c. **Box Tops-** Tara reported that the Box Tops are counted, boxed and ready to go. Mrs. Krzeminski's 4th hour won the pizza party.
- d. **Color Run-** Tara reported that over 130 students participated. All had fun despite the rainy weather. Looking at approximate \$3600 profit. Mrs. Cacaj's class won the ice cream party.
- e. **Concessions-** Wendy reported Concessions is going fine. It is a lot of busy work. Girls Basketball is finished, Boys Basketball is starting up. The biggest challenge is getting volunteers.
- f. **8th Grade Celebration-** nothing new.
- g. **Halloween Party-** Tara reported that over 300 students attended the party. Seemed to have lots of fun.
- h. **Restaurant Night-** Kelly reported that the 1st Restaurant Night was at Mod Pizza and we earned \$235. Awaiting results on the competition against Larson MS. Looking for suggestions for future restaurant nights. Parent suggestion of City BBQ.
- i. **Teacher Appreciation-** nothing new.

10. New Business/Announcements:

- a. **Giving Tree for Teachers:** parent suggestion to set up a giving tree for the Teachers at the holidays. Athens HS PTO does this and it works well. Teachers provide gift suggestions thru Google Docs. Wendy getting information from Athens HS PTO on setting it up.
- b. **LIKE Documentary Nov. 14, 7pm at Troy HS** sponsored by Troy Youth Assistance and Troy Tech Talks. All are welcome at the special screening.

11. Adjourn at 8:25pm. Colleen made motion; Wendy seconded.
Minutes submitted by Susan Holle, Secretary.