

April PTO Meeting, 4.20.23 at 9am in the Library

In attendance:

Georgia Babatsikos

Robin Miller

Darcie Canales

Mary McCafferty

Michelle Hessler

Jayme Zerivitz

Stephanie Spier

Liz Tucker

Weston Steinberg

Delphine Dell'Era

1) Welcome:

2) Approval of March Meeting Minutes: approved

3) Treasurer Update:

Parent education - have \$200 right now, to use for snacks, etc. Hasn't been used yet.

At end of March, savings \$3000

Business account \$12,000

Total \$15,000

Spent \$500 dance reimbursements, after a \$50 donation = \$450 net.

Snacks for CMAS were provided by CMS, not PTO. There was a PTO budget line for testing snacks, so this will be used for something else.

Teacher appreciation \$600 for lunch - upcoming expense.

8th grade - \$800 budgeted, but didn't spend Honor Roll recognition money (\$1000) - so \$1800.

4) Coordinator Updates:

FET - Link to parents to report discrimination sent out on Friday email -

(Liz commented: Also doing a student survey next week in Ac Lab re: experiences around bullying or harassment. New thing district wide this year. Anonymous survey. Helping kids to understand truly what bullying is vs disagreements, etc.)

Last meeting - gave out free books leftover from Book Fair to families

Bianca Gallegos (BVSD Community Alliance) spoke: importance of parents having high expectations for kids, Ascent Program, topics for next year were taken.

No more FET meetings this school year. They would like to be part of teacher appreciation going forward. Parents report 5:30 is a good time for meetings.

DPC - district parent council. (Jill Margolis), no updates.

SAC - meeting will happen by the end of the year.

PEN - Michelle speaking on Julie's behalf. Parent night with Ashley Chandler. Important information, relevant for Middle School. Low attendance this year due to rescheduling from end of January and being right after Spring Break.

Michelle would like a bit more connection, name tags, time to connect before/after, etc.

Discussed possibly introducing this information at the Welcome Parent event at the start of the year (for all grades, not just for 6th grader parents). Possible tech information series, such as the ones Crest View Elementary has been hosting.

Incoming 6th graders event May 10th night. How to attract attendees: ideas such as providing childcare, having a Zoom option, providing food (dinner or snacks). Could be a partnership event between FET, PEN, PTO (Liz's suggestion).

5) Staff Appreciation; 8th Grade Graduation; Last Day of School:

Teacher (and Staff) appreciation Week May 8th -12th.

Each day there will be a different theme: Monday - coffee/donuts in teachers lounge;

Tuesday - trail mix bar in teacher's lounge (donations solicited through Help At School);

Wednesday - Liz will cover; Thursday - lunch for teachers; Friday - gift cards for teachers (donations solicited through Help At School).

All week long, gift card raffle for teachers. Liz will draw names of teacher. Gift cards to Starbucks in \$5, 10, higher amounts, etc. Parents will contribute to that. Hopefully bigger gift cards for restaurants, etc. Grand prize style. Delphine thinks grand prize can be funded through PTO. Possibly some local businesses could contribute (per Darcie).

40 teachers, total of 60 including all staff.

FET parents could collaborate with Liz for Wednesday, the FET community would like to bring food. Georgia and Liz will connect about this.

Help At School will go out in the weekly newsletter tomorrow/today.

Thank you notes are handed out with gift cards

Last Day of School & 8th Grade Graduation:

Liz is working on 6th/7th grade plans

8th grade plans - email going out to 8th Grade families early next week. There will be two big events with one permission slip.

- May 17th - CTE (Career and Technical Ed) field trip - hairdressing, welding, nail, medical programs - district wide. Return to school for picnic lunch on the field, with popsicles provided. A & A*** livestream with Boulder high students. Art activity - making paper cranes that will be used to decorate the ceremony - (writing what they want to leave behind and what to carry with them). Mini rehearsal in gym. Full rehearsal

following week. Then, a nice reflective activity on 3 years in middle school and their growth. The Awards Ceremony is returning and will be livestreamed. Awards from different departments, athletics, citizen awards, etc.

- Following week - May 25th -Continuation on the last day of school. 8th graders come in one hour late (at 9:45). Ceremony as usual, hoping to livestream it for families that can't attend. Cake reception outside by sheds - 6/7th grade families to volunteer for this. Mingling, photos, Yearbooks, photos in the Auditorium. Then catered lunch, location to be determined. Then walk to Elks Club around 1:15, hang out, return at 3:30. Liz will ask families to take their kids after the lunch for kids who don't want to go to Elks. There will be a room at the Elks with music, etc.

6/7th grade field day type of day, probably.

Help At School will go out for 6/7th families to help with various needs. 8th grade help needs should be over by 12:30 or so. Possibly 6th/7th grade students can help with earlier set-up needs.

PTO paying for 8th grade lunch - 200 students, plus staff. CMS will pay for cakes, other needs.

Will ask for donations for plates, napkins, etc.

8th grade parents are invited to ceremony and cake reception only. Parents then pick kids up at the end of the school day.

6) Principal/Vice Principal Update

Really excited about continuation and teacher appreciation. CMAS recap from last week - got through it quickly and the kids did great. There were less than 30 opt-outs. 8th grade wrapping up their final science units right now. Makeups next week. Snacks were a huge hit with kids. Track Season has started - About 120 kids involved. Latinos in Action members read to Kindergarteners at CrestView about a week ago. Upcoming Field Trip May 22nd to meet an Astronaut. The Activities budget is being used. Ultimate Frisbee is happening again. Lots of activities, clubs still going on: Allies club, Dungeons & Dragons, Battle of the Books, Talent Show is May 8th. Kids are applying to perform speeches at continuation, and roles are being assigned to kids who want them. 360 applications just came out for next year.

Latinos in Action idea - quinceañera themed dance party in Fall. Align with Day of the Dead. Maybe 9th graders would return to help plan it?

Plan for possible another dance in Spring 2024. Maybe move the date to post-Spring Break, or around that time. More school wide events - great for connecting kids, culture building. Family community event is another idea. Food truck night, maybe in the Fall. Similar to Crest View Elementary Fall Fest. Possibly vouchers for teachers to use food trucks, etc.

Please update Beth if you want to continue your current committee commitment. Still have holes for some roles.

