

Partners in Education January 18, 2024

LPS Attendees: Kurt, Amy D, Amy P, Vanessa, Lisa, Dawn

Families: Amy Tsiros-Domow, Kim Phillips, Ginger McGill, Melissa Isabelle, Roslyn Michelson, Katya Farrel, Andrea Cawthorne, Khadijah Booth Watkins

Winter Fair

Great day, students enjoyed a photo booth, games, cotton candy, popcorn, bake sale, white elephant table. Profit was \$350 and was split between HS and MS student councils to plan future events

Spring Fundraiser Event

Thursday April 25, 2024 6-9pm at Marriott Hotel, Newton, MA

- Don't be shy! Volunteers at any stage of planning are a huge help!
- Call or text Lisa at 781-572-7198 or email lkalfopoulos@learningprep.org to join the committee or with any ideas
- Tasks we need Volunteers for include:
 - Manage gift baskets
 - Manage silent auction prizes
 - Help generate interest
 - Assist with decorating
 - Write & print booklets
 - Share creative ideas
 - Join committee for general help

Amy Tsiros-Domow, Melissa Isabelle volunteered to help and will be in touch with Lisa

Special Olympics Basketball

SOMA LPS Basketball needs more players! Need 2 more players to avoid canceling the rest of the season- 8th grade and up. Commitment is Wednesday afternoons right after dismissal from now through Mid March.

First tournament is January 27 and there will be one every other Saturday. If the team qualifies, they'd go on to the Winter Games in Worcester. The season wraps up with a weekend away and an award banquet.

SOMA Basketball has had an 11 year partnership with LPS, has serviced over 300 students! The Special Olympics program has grown a lot over the years. It allows more students to broaden their minds and increase their physical and social activity. Participation in SOMA encourages personal growth, teamwork, mentorship and teaches students that there's no limit to potential! SOMA welcomes students with all skill levels, confidence levels and abilities. Please contact Katya if you would like to sign up your student! katyagard@gmail.com or 617-306-9322

Comment from Ginger- is interested in Francis joining the team. Would he be able to join even if he is younger? Katya said Yes.

Unofficial Treasurer

Our Unofficial Treasurer is: Meredith Lopez

Meredith will receive a monthly or bi-monthly update from Holly, our Finance manager in the LPS' business office with any changes and will have visibility into the P.I.E. budget.

2019 PIE had around \$17,000 and has declined over the past few years. The current balance is \$11,158.86.

PIE sponsors and volunteers for school wide events. They also help fund an after school scholarship program.

PIE has suggested a lot of great ideas for fundraising this year. How can we get the fundraising going?

Are there ways for us to increase participation and fundraising in events that PIE runs, specifically the Fall BBQ and the Pizza and Pickleball event in May?

- 50/50 raffle during Pizza and Pickleball
- Can we do a calendar raffle event? Gift cards, birthday party donations
- WECO delivers meals to families for fundraising. Family leaves a cooler outside, WECO delivers a meal and shares a portion of the profits with schools.

Charitable Giving Efforts

After a very successful Holiday Food Drive, many MS students asked to do a drive to support an animal shelter. We are excited to announce that we will be partnering with the Buddy Dog Humane Society in Sudbury, MA!

After the MS Student Council meets with Buddy Dog, a list will be sent out with items that can be donated. Similar to the Food Drive, we will run a contest in both the High School and Middle School with a pizza party for the winning homerooms.

The drive starts Monday, January 22 and goes until Friday, February 2.

Questions

- **Are there more families in need for after school scholarships?**
 - We currently have not exceeded our funds, and we expect to have enough to cover Winter and Spring sessions for families who request scholarships.
 - PIE typically votes to give an annual donation to the scholarship fund.
- **How do Panther Pride Slips work?**
 - MS has raffle assemblies every 5-6 weeks and pulls out slips for fun prizes
 - Do they expire? Can students use them later? Counselors typically help students fill them out if they find them in the binder and help them put them in to enter. We encourage them to put them in on a regular basis. Once we've had a raffle, those slips are thrown out. Contact counselor if your student needs help to add them.

Senior Week Planning

Will begin February 1st. Roslyn, do you want to reach out to Senior parents and 11th grade level parent to start planning the committee to plan the events

Staff Appreciation

- Amy Tsiros-Domow would like to organize again this year.
- Ginger McGill and Kim Phillips would like to help plan.
- Kim has a bunch of contacts from doing similar events at her other son's school. Taco truck, pizza truck, cookie monstah truck, empanada, whoopie wagon.

Are there budget constraints?

- PIE can vote to use money from the PIE fund.
- Can parents supplement the budget if needed? Yes
- Can PIE do additional events during staff appreciation week? Yes

Could we do a google form to gauge staff dietary restrictions & who's staying for the Friday PIE hosted lunch? Last year did Blue Ribbon BBQ- should PIE do that again?

Suggestion: On survey ask staff about favorite food places.