General Meeting Boyce Middle School PTO

Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 9:30 am

Attendance: Andrea Amorose, Lindsay Beck, Shanna Caplan, Sarah Craganu, Val Franks, Daphna Gans, Matt Henderson, Christine Mussomeli, Jessica Nash, Terri O'Connor, Dan O'Rourke, Nicole Paoly, Pamela Scureman, Tina Stutzman, Gina Swanson

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance led by Pamela Scureman

Reading and Approval of Agenda: First motion to approve by Terri O'Connor, seconded by Shanna Caplan.

Statement of the Treasurer – Terri O'Connor

- See attached reports.
- An audit is required due to the change in Treasurer. It is currently being completed.
- Taxes are completed.
- Membership/Activity Fee
    - Raffle drawing on 12/1/21, Community Foundation USC blanket https://www.cfusc.org/shop

Correspondence – Nicole Paoly

- Boyce Bulletin was sent out to families last week. No other correspondence at this time.

Reports

- Teacher Representative – Matt Henderson
    - Mr. Madge announced the Winter Band Concert will be held in the Boyce Theater on December 8, 2021. The 5th grade band will perform at 7:00 pm; the 6th grade at 8:00.
    - Mrs. Shetley asks that parents send her an email if their child(ren) is interested in Chorus.
    - Mrs. Antonio reported 2,000 pairs of socks and almost $1,000 was donated to Socks with a Mission during the Socktober event.
    - The Boyce Battle of the Books is returning this March! Mrs. Husack will reveal the list of books in January. Over 2,000 students typically participate in this event.
    - The PE teachers are requesting a donation of 36 compass-like items for hiking/location finding. Mr. Henderson will forward the specifics to the Executive Board for consideration.
- Executive Committee
    - President – Pamela Scureman
        - PTO meetings will continue to be virtual.
        - We are looking for someone to complete Rama Bala Gupta's term as VP. Contact Pam if you or someone you know could fill the position.
        - Friendship Shoebox Project which is led by Mrs. Autieri will be occurring this year. Details will be coming.
    - 1st Vice President – Rama Bala Gupta was unable to attend.
    - 2nd Vice President – Dan O'Rourke presented on:
        - Facilities:
            - The Boyce field was updated as it is the second most used field in the district between PE classes, recess, and various sports teams.
            - Paint and decals were updated to use the district's new "U" and add positive quotes.
            - The playground area was expanded and the PTO recently donated additional recess equipment.
            - Boyce Gardens in the courtyard will grow fruit and vegetables which will then be donated.

        - The Panther Paw program is used to recognize students for social/emotional achievements. Each Panther Paw earns its recipient a small token gift and an entry into a larger drawing for prizes that are donated by the community or PTO.
            - Promotes a positive culture within the school.
            - "As a Boyce student, I will be Respectful, Responsible, Prepared, Productive, and Safe.
            - Lessons supporting the ideas and goals of this program are presented during Advisor Time.
    - Board Advisor – Andrea Amorose
        - Boyce Pride awards are given by teachers to recognize students that go above and beyond in some way. There are typically about 30 students recognized each month. This program helps students to know that the staff sees them beyond their grades.
- School Board
    - School Board Representative - Daphna Gans reports that it has been a tough few months at the District level with several difficult decisions being made. On a positive note, "normal" activities are returning. One such activity is the School Board's Strategic Planning beginning soon. This uses parental input in addition to staff and administration to look forward five years. In the recent election, two new school board members were selected and two were reelected. Also, Amy Billerbeck resigned so the Board will be filling her open seat.

Standing and Reporting Committees/Reporting Organizations

- Display Case - Tina Stutzman tries to switch the display cases approximately every quarter. This committee was given three additional cases to use this year. The guidance counselors will be helping to get student contributions to include in the cases.
- Staff Appreciation – Gina Swanson/Jessica Nash - This committee has some new and interesting ideas for treating Boyce staff. To make things as COVID safe as possible, mostly caterers and food trucks will be used. To help fund the extra expenses, there will be a drive for monetary donations after Thanksgiving.
- Spelling Bee - Sarah Cranganu - The Spelling Bee will be held in person and with spectators! If necessary, a pre-competition will occur in the cafeteria during Pride Time to find the top 20 spellers. The final competition will be held on January 27 in the Boyce Theater. Spellers will be allowed to remove their masks; spectators will follow the current rules at the time.
- The Spirit Wear sale was a short one this year but brought in 103 orders. Val Franks estimates approximately $1,000 in profit from the sale. Items will be sent home with Boyce students upon their arrival. Orders from other schools will need to pick up their items from Val's house.
- The next Spirit Day is being held at Olive Oil's Pizzeria on November 23rd from 10 am to 10 pm. Please show or mention the flier to earn credit for Boyce Middle School. Olive Oil's owner is a USC graduate and current resident.
- Yearbook - Lindsay Beck is shopping around for a new vendor that has more user-friendly software. The current plan is to include all end of the year activities and distribute the yearbooks over the summer.

Next PTO Meeting: February 16, 2022 9:30 am - Look for emails of the Monthly Newsletters with the PTO Meeting registration links!