

MASON RIDGE PTO MEETING

MEETING INFORMATION

Date: 9/01/2016
Time: 7:00 PM-8:30PM
Location: Ramsey Center

AGENDA

Attendance:

Pam Holman – Co-President
Sara Cima – Co-President
Jenna Ottman – Vice President
Melissa Adams– Co-Treasurer
Maggie McCormick- Co-Treasurer
Maria Spivey- Secretary
Stella Afentoullis- Past President
Tiffany Frautschi- Past President
Jenn Dieken-Buchek – Principal
Connie Binder – Teacher Representative
Total Members in attendance: 48

1. Call Meeting to Order

- Meeting called order by Pam Holman. THANK YOU ALL for attending!

2. 6-Part Speaker Series - September Discussion ~ State of Parkway and Mason Ridge

- Parkway Superintendents, Dr. Marty and Dr. Kirchhofer, discussed key findings from the 2015-16 Parkway Listening Tour. Highlighted Project Parkway 2.0 mission, vision, learning principles and commitments. For more information on Project Parkway, follow this [link](#). Superintendents discussed Mason Ridge Elementary facilities and special assignments. MR is one of oldest parkway schools. Parkway is analyzing annual and long term maintenance cost of school, discussing enrollment growth and facility. MR currently has 30 students on Special Assignment.

3. Approval of May Meeting Minutes

- Minutes from May 2016 PTO meeting printed and made available. Will vote to approve next meeting.

4. Discussion Items- Sara Cima

- Communications: We have over 40 events planned, you can see them 4 different places: Calendars, MySchoolAnywhere, PTO Website and PTO Board
 - PTO website is brand new, please check it out
 - We will be layering communication and distributing it different ways so that people can access the information how they like. We are working on a plan to streamline information and the amount of notifications you receive.
- Class Room Coordinator openings: Alicia Tessler is the classroom coordinator chair for all grades. There are 3 openings that need to be filled. Once they are filled, you will receive more communication from us.

- Mighty Mustang Fund: Misti Benson chair – last opportunity to donate AND receive raffle tickets is midnight tonight. We will continue to accept donations after this time, and throughout the year. There is a video on the PTO website, facebook and twitter that we encourage you to watch to see how your donation is used.
- 4 Ways to Give (without trying): AmazonSmile, Schnucks eScrip, Box Tops and Spirit Nights- (next one is chick fil a)
- MR LIVE! Party Around the World, Holly Even & Eram Hassan Co Chairs
 - Holly and Eram spoke- this years theme is “Party around the World”. They would like to see the children’s acts mirror the theme. Registration Deadline of Dec 7th. No acts added after this date. All of your music and props also need to be turned in on that day. Please reach out to Holly or Eram if you need help with music. Flyer to follow. Online ticket sales will be available. They will be looking for volunteers- please let then know if you are available. Also, they are looking for a new co-chair for next year who could shadow Eram this year.
 - MR live- optional talent show-Jan 21, 2017 where students can do either an individual or group skit or performance. Only one act per student unless you are a fifth grader, then you can do the class act and an additional act.

5. Treasurer Report, Melissa Adams & Maggie McCormick

- Highlights and approval of 2016-17 budget- the budget was reviewed and questions asked from those present were answered
- There were a few new expenses added to this years budget- technology, branding for mascot, pancake breakfast, BTS coffee, discretionary fund for principal
- Reimbursement Procedure Policy – new document for 2016-17
- Question about moving carnival to Saturday- Carnival committee rep responded- philosophy is that it is an event for the kids. They get a kick out having it on Friday. Kindergartners need a parent but 1-5 do not.
- Motion to approve the budget by second by Melissa Adams, second by Maria Spivey. Budget approved.

6. Principals Report, Jenn Dieken-Buchek

- Facility Update
 - Morning arrival by car. Cars coming in the morning average 115. Jenn encourages parents to start carpool and ride bus to reduce number of cars coming into lot. Timeliness of busses is getting better.
 - New entrance on west side of building is working well. They are working on new signs and a mascot that will go out to identify main entrance. They will also have vinyl lettering to identify main entrance on the glass above the door. New sign on sidewalk in front that says this is not an entrance also will be coming.
 - Soccer field- parkway will no longer maintain it- we have private funds that will maintain it.
- Faculty Update
 - Maternity leave- Mrs. Faughn back mid September, Mrs. Crabtree mid October
 - Hired 2 new teaching assistant- Heather Peck and Krystal Farwig
 - New math resource- envisions math resource. The presentation being given tonight should be video taped and on the parkway website.
 - Chromebooks- 1:1 in Grades 1-5. PTO supplemented to get to 1:1 ratio.
 - Working to get to this in kindergarten.
 - Parkway moving to a new website in January

- Parkway/School/Student Awareness
 - Weekly video update each Friday. The videos will be archived on facebook, and the MR website has new one each week.
 - Weekly newsletter on Sundays 5:30- please let us know if you are not receiving it in your email
 - No school on Monday September 5th.
 - First late start on Wednesday Sept 7th. School starts at 11:05, doors open at 10:45. Busses run 2 hours later than normal times in the morning.
 - Fifth graders taking over morning announcements. There is a link that that will broadcast it live at 9:05 you can watch from outside of school.
 - The fifth graders are putting together an advisory board to present to the PTO to request funds to upgrade the video streaming.
 - 174 people have voted on the name of our new mustang. The new name will be announced Friday Sept 16th at the end of spirit week. Please keep voting.
 - Jenn's personal goal is to know 100% of first names of the students by Christmas. She is at 100 names and counting!

7. Teachers Report, Connie Binder

- Teachers are thankful for the reimbursement from PTO to use for what they need for their classrooms
- First and second grade received the cubbies that they requested from part of the auction money last year.
- Teachers are very excited for chrome books.
- Maker Space Parent Steering Committee- first meeting today. Asking for all volunteers to help. No background needed. Starting new MS ridge face facebook page for library
- Parent/Teacher Conferences, September 27th and 29th. Watch for Sign-Up Genius

8. Upcoming Calendar Events, Pam Holman

- Communication and gathering are important to us- builds a bond and strength within MR
- Spirit Week is the week of September 12th, spirit wear sale T/W/R at 3:45 outside of gym (weather permitting). Wear MR spirit wear on Friday September 16th.
- Spirit Night – Thursday September 15th, Chick-fil-A in Des Peres and say you are a MR familiy, they will give Back to our school. Noon-8pm
- Spirit Week Assembly – September 16th at 3pm
- Spirit Week Pancake Breakfast – September 17th, **FREE EVENT!!- Fifth grade students will help assist**, there will be soccer games in use so we will have a very active parking lot. We will have an RSVP.
- Math Fact Scholars – Will start September 14 for 1st – 5th Grades. Kindergarten begins Oct.
- School Pictures – September 27
- Save the Date – MR 7 Wonders of the World International Night, October 19th

9. Next Meeting, Jenna Ottman

- Thursday, October 6th, 7pm
- Part 2 of Speaker Series, Technology in the Classroom - Bill Bass, Coordinator of Innovation
- Motion to adjourn meeting by Jenna Ottman, second by Stella Afentoullis. Meeting adjourned.

