

MMES School Council Meeting

Date: November 25, 2024

Time: 3:32 pm

Location: Mercury Mine Conference Room

Facilitator: Stephanie Taueki, Principal

Committee Members Present:

- **Principal Representative** – Stephanie Taueki, Principal
- **Teaching Staff Representative** – Yvonne Pilling, 6th Grade Teacher
- **Teaching Staff Representative** – Blaine Beatty, 4th Grade Teacher
- **Support Staff Representative** – Sandy Ditsch
- **Parent Representative** – Amy Pawlowski
- **Parent Representative** – Elizabeth Pickering
- **Parent Representative** - Rachel Guthrie

Purpose: To approve previous minutes and discuss school happenings.

Outcomes: All members will have an understanding of current school events and goals.

Minutes

I. Welcome

- A. Minutes of September 23, 2024, meeting approved as written.

II. School Happenings

- A. PTG Gold Rush: Mrs. Taueki and Amy Pawlowski reported on the recent PTG Gold Rush fundraising campaign. The total raised is approaching \$80,000 with checks still coming in. The slime event will be the culminating point of the campaign with this year having more of an emphasis on an end date rather than an ambiguous time period. Lots of school communication from Mrs. Taueki was noted by PTG as well as the daily announcements keeping attention on the event. PTG reps will draft a proposed thank you note for teachers to send to each class donor list to indicate the specific ways the funds will be used and appreciated. Future considerations include how much parents would be involved on the day of the event and if there would be more bounce houses at future Gold Rush Days.
- B. School Letter Grade: Mrs. Taueki reported that MMES earned an “A” school letter designation which was celebrated at the last PTG meeting and staff meeting. We increased from 87 points to 93 points and also were named to the US News and World

Report best schools list. All this information will be added to social media posts and Mrs. Taueki will share the US News graphic with teachers to add to their email signatures and parent communication.

- C. Assemblies Update: Yvonne Pilling is coordinating with teaching staff to arrange a 4th grade Science assembly, Phoenix Symphony assemblies; and a presentation by Liberty Wildlife for Kindergarten and 1st grade in January. PTG allocated assembly funding in their budget this year which will be utilized in scheduling assemblies. The Desert Education Area received a \$2,000 grant from Freeport-McMoRan to add educational displays in the desert area. This will be developed over the next few months. Our gardens have a couple of Campus Support team members working to help clean up, plant and revitalize the planter boxes.
- D. Kindergarten Round-Up: Mrs. Taueki reported that we are continuing to have a lot of requests for tours; mostly Kindergarten requests for next year but some requests are for upper grades. A meeting will be scheduled prior to winter break to begin planning Kindergarten Round-Up and will review feedback from last year's survey. Heather Wade is assisting the tour process by following up on tours with registration links and information.
- E. There were no Tax Credit Expenditures to consider.

III. Good of the Order

- A. A committee will be established to begin planning the MMES 50th Anniversary celebration. It was suggested to start recruiting committee members now and also to possibly combine the anniversary with an Artist in Residence program.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:26 pm.