Wednesday, May 15, 2024

HKIMS PTO Meeting Minutes

Attendance

In-person:

Joyce Waterbury, PTO President	Julie Peryga, PTO Vice President	Nicole Harlow, PTO Secretary
Dorothy Ventura, MS Principal	Eric Larson, IS Principal	Jennifer Banaletti
Alison Broder		

Online: None

Previous Business

- Motion to approve minutes made by Alison B., seconded by Jen B.; no objections

President's Report (Joyce W.)

- Presented slides to show income & expenses; will also post online
- $14583 Income from Big Fundraiser, Book Fair, Box Tops; $15353 Expenses (Field Trips and Cultural Arts are our biggest expenses)
- Will recruit committee heads this summer
- Dorothy V. suggested surveying the community at the beginning of the year

Vice President's Report (Julie P.)

- May need to increase budget for Cultural Arts
- Extreme Science already booked for HKIS for the fall
- Working on a speaker for MS
- Planning to book Back Track Vocals for both schools for the spring

Treasurer's Report (Kristy H.)

- Please submit paper/electronic receipts for our records
- Joyce will add Kristy to the shared drive

MS Principal's Report (Dorothy V.)

- Gearing up for schedule changes next year
- Interviewing Science (8th) and Math (6th) teachers now
- Want to release student schedules at the same time as high school (mid-August)
- Alison B. asked if AAFA math did what they wanted it to? Answer: It moved the dial up a little bit in terms of iReady scores; don't have SBAC results yet.
- Sees a need to work on certain things to prepare kids for high school: build stamina for test-taking, studying, note-taking, being independent
- Need to improve absences; will likely tie attendance and behavior to fun activities in order to accomplish the goal
- Teacher appreciation and SBAC snacks were appreciated (suggestion to skip the oranges and have more fruit snacks next year)
- 8th grade night: reception might be just cookies and water; awards ceremony happens in the morning during the school day and parents are notified in advance if student is receiving an award

IS Principal's Report (Eric L.)

- Hiring music teacher to replace Mr. D'Amato, who is retiring
- Field Day coming up; Mr. Burkle is planning the morning; Eric will let him know that there's $200 available from the PTO; excited for the BMX assembly in the afternoon
- Theme of town meeting is Unified Sports; hosting 1st event here next week; will have audience challenges and popular teachers as referees; will prepare kids for that and let them know their job is to cheer on everyone
- SBAC is finished
- Proposal regarding summer learning; want to bring fun and excitement to it to incentivize kids to read multiple books
- PTO can redirect funds from Coffee House, Career Day, Valentine's Day, and leftovers from Staff Wishlist to support it
- Regarding next Fall Festival: eliminate bingo; maybe kids just go back to classrooms to make posters for the veterans and watch a movie

Committees

Spiritwear (Jen B.)

- Considered a success because there's now easy access to order products
- Jen would like to share the promotions with everyone
- Jen will stay on as chairperson

Teacher Appreciation (Alison B.)

- Snacks on Monday and Friday
- People seem happy to signup and send something in
- Worked well to have different choices at the assorted stations
- Hung banner up in hallway
- Request that administration share staff ideas for appreciation
- Nice to spread it out throughout the year

Yearbook

- Nicole is considering the chairperson role for next year

Book Fair (Nicole H.)

- Nothing to report

Cup Committee (Nicole H. reporting)

- Will reach out to Veronica Pizzorusso
- Dorothy V. offered 8th grade helpers

Cultural Arts (Julie P. reporting)

- Need to find a committee head

Fundraising

- Lisa Carlson not chairing but willing to help

New Business

- Nicole H. mentioned complaints that PTO isn't doing enough; sentiment is reflected in the lower than expected fundraising numbers; thinks PTO does need to be doing more fun events for the kids; will be dependent upon having adequate volunteers
- Meetings will be Mondays next year

Meeting adjourned 8:40pm by Joyce W.