Monday, May 5, 2025

HKIMS PTO Meeting Minutes

Attendance

In-Person:

Joyce Waterbury, PTO President	Julie Peryga, PTO Vice President	Kristy Hebert, PTO Treasurer
Eric Larson, IS Principal	Kelly Drajewicz	Alison Broder
Kristi LoDonni		

Remote:

Nicole Harlow, PTO Secretary	Crystal Henry	Cait Zinser

Previous Business

- Motion to approve minutes made by Alison, seconded by Kelly; no objections
- Little Ceasar's: Joyce asked Kristy if she has received and cashed the check; she confirmed
- Run Amuck: Still need volunteers and high schoolers are welcome; PTO is responsible for the photo booth, so we need to start planning that; HKYFS has been handling the finances and settled on $17 per registration in advance and $23 for registrations on the day of the event; registration is now open!

President's Report & Vice President's Report (Joyce W. And Julie P.)

- Cup Committee: people have been complimenting the display

Treasurer's Report (Kristy H.)

- Wrote a check for tomorrow's Ice Cream Emergency for staff appreciation
- Picked up snacks for post-SBAC today
- Will write a check to reimburse Mrs. Maynard for snacks for the return trip from NYC (coming out of the staff wishlist)

IS Principal's Report (Eric L.)

- Select Choir went to senior living center to perform; Nick Tedeschi will be showing incoming 3rd graders all of the instruments; part of his efforts to expand the music department
- 4th grade went to CT Science Center
- Unified Sports club went to Yard Goats stadium in Hartford with middle school students
- State testing happening now
- Full-time Spanish teacher starts tomorrow, but only through the end of the school year (she was hired by the high school and will start there in the fall); proving to be a tough position to fill
- Field Day–Bring on the Hoopla will be coming if they can shorten the program to about 15 mins for each group
- 5th Grade Step Up: 1st parent planning meeting coming up soon; ceremony will be on rain or shine
- Excited for Ice Cream Emergency to come tomorrow; emailed all of the staff to let them know
- Does Mr. Burkle want parent volunteers and popsicles for Field Day? Scheduled for 9:15am–12:15pm, 12 stations, including the hula hoop one (this is in place of having an afternoon assembly
- Proposal for summer learning celebration support from the PTO; summer slide tends to be 2 month for reading 2.5 months for math; want to combat that with summer learning plans, including incentives to make kids want to complete the work; requesting $600 for reading and $500 for math; Kristy asked if we should write a check to the student activity fund or if we will reimburse afterwards–Eric will find out

Committees

Bus Driver Appr., PTO Leadership, Spirit Wear, Veteran's Day, Welcome Wag.

- Nothing to report

Book Fair (Nicole H. & Stephanie Ruth)

- May 19-22 to overlap with AAFA night on 5/22
- NEED VOLUNTEERS! We've made two shorter time slots around lunch time in an effort to accommodate working parents who may be able to slip away for an extended lunchtime
- Each student will have $5 to spend at the fair, using PTO Scholastic Dollars; no physical coupons, just provide their name at checkout; added slots for additional volunteers to streamline checkout
- Staff will receive $5 off purchases of $20 or more (Scholastic pays for these coupons instead of them coming out of our Scholastic Dollars and has simplified the redemption at the register)

Cultural Arts (Julie P. For Cait Z.)

- Looking into the Harlem Wizards; multiple schools in the district participated together years ago as a fundraiser (sold at least 400 tickets; held in RSD17 field house); they offer both an assembly option and a fundraiser option
- Engineering Wonder is another possibility
- Yale improv group; more reasonably priced, so it might enable us to bring in more assemblies
- Dorothy had requested the Mount Everest climber to come back again

Cup Committee (Kelly D.)

- The design is up!
- The students who helped Kelly were wonderful and enthusiastic

Fundraising

- Planning on Color Challenge again in the fall; considering not printing shirts, just doing plain white tees; could advertise sponsors on yard signs instead; will work on planning this summer to beat the rush of teams and groups asking local businesses for donations

Teacher/Staff Appreciation (Alison B.)

- Ice Cream Emergency will park around the back of the building between the gym and cafeteria or on the side of the auditorium since rain is expected
- Please encourage ALL staff members to go outside and enjoy the ice cream truck
- Signup Genius for snacks; Alison has received some donations by Venmo and will use funds to fill in the snack baskets as needed
- Potted tulip and gift for Administrative Assistant's Day
- Alison will write up a summary of what she has done as the chairperson to help the next person

Yearbook (Nicole H.)

- Almost done!
- Custom page deadline extended to this Thursday, May 8; historically has set the deadline and then extended it for one week because it gives people the nudge they need to complete their pages

New Business

- Elections for Executive Board: Nicole for President, Julie for Vice President, Kristy LiDonni for Treasurer & Bus Driver Appreciation chair, Secretary open; Kelly D. For Welcome Wagon; Kelly made a motion to approve, Kristy H. seconded; need chairs for Fundraising, Yearbook, Staff Appreciation, and possibly Veteran's Day (Joyce will confirm if Shana Ripp is continuing); Nicole Harlow and Kristi LiDonni will meet at Liberty Bank to remove Kristi Hebert from and add Krist L. to the account

Meeting adjourned 7:56 pm by Joyce W.