Givens PTO 2025-2026
Monday, October 6, 2025
6:00 pm / Givens Library

1. Dr. Jana Parker Introduction
    a. Board extended current strategic plan into 26-27
    b. What's coming up for Givens:
        i. Collecting info in Dec., start interviewing for new principal in Jan.
        ii. New instructional aide focusing on SEL (using remaining Title 1 funds)
        iii. Listen and Learn Tours happening soon
    c. Open question from parent: Is there a plan to make the Givens playground accessible?
2. Presidents (Betsy/Hannah)
    a. Bylaws Update
        i. Betsy and Brooke to touch base so we can move forward and approve the update
    b. Teacher Grants
        i. Grants approved ($1,277.20 / $2,000):
            1. Ms. Heilman ($211.62)
            2. Ms. Johnson ($128.97)
            3. Ms. Etzel ($285.11)
            4. Ms. Go ($106.05)
            5. Ms. Pierce ($545.45)
        ii. New Requests
            1. Mrs. Stengel ($135.79) - toys, stamps
            2. Mrs. Go (dehumidifier) - facilities question first (is this not covered by school district)
        iii. Betsy: In Jan., we may need to revisit the current $2k budget
    c. Givens PR
        i. Teacher Spotlight
            1. Could be a quick 5 minute discussion; have 5th graders take this one
            2. Nicole to work w/ Kirksey
    d. Anxious Generation Book discussion workshop by Amy Maus
        i. 1 hour presentation and 1 hour book discussion; read book prior
    e. Wait Until 8th
        i. We just need someone to take this on to make Givens a "Wait Until 8th" school. Maybe Jamie?
3. VP Administration (Madeline)
    a. Staff meals

        i. November conferences 11/18, 3pm: Madeline will send email about a week out to remind Kirksey that food will be there.
    b. Staff birthdays - May have lead for cookie donation for staff bdays
    c. She's stocking lounge once/month
4. VP Community (Erin)
    a. Buzz Book
        i. One room parent per grade will email the entire grade w/ all staff favorites in that grade
    b. Room Parents
        i. Need volunteers
        ii. Remove request for volunteers in Gazette going forward
5. VP Fundraising (Audrey)
    a. Fall Fundraiser (2 weeks; first two weeks in Nov.)
        i. Website set up for fundraiser: need members to review/feedback
        ii. Sponsor Needs
        iii. Flyer/Tracker to go home
            1. Nicole to make
        iv. Incentive
            1. Thermometer for money raised
            2. Theme week; Monday we do this, Tuesday we do this – Audrey to come up with list
    b. Dine Outs (Audrey)
        i. Sylvie Dee's September 18th – $178
        ii. Parkmoor October 21st – we need backpack mail (so need to make a flyer)
        iii. Chipotle Nov 5th 5-9pm
            1. We get 25% as long as we get $100 worth of sales
        iv. Vanilla Sugar Bake Shoppe in Webster?
            1. Clark does 20% give-back first Sunday of each month
        v. Dewey's?
    c. Progressive Dinner (Audrey)
        i. Tentative date of September 19, 2026
        ii. Plan to announce ticket sales at trivia night
    d. Wine Night (Audrey)
        i. Grapevine: February 12th from 6PM-8PM
        ii. Tickets will be $35 each; 50 tickets.
        iii. Ticket sales go online ahead of time

iv. Need a photographer to donate a session so we can raffle. There are a couple ideas – will connect w/ Audrey

e. New Options
    i. Fit Body and Givens Elementary Fundraiser
        1. 28 Day Jumpstart to your staff, parents and community for $67 and donate 100% of the proceeds directly back to Givens PTO
            a. Put this on calendar for early January
    ii. Lava Island
        1. Supposed to open around Halloween; can do B2S night bc portion of proceeds go to Givens
    iii. Cardinals Calendars: $20 per calendar, $8.75 goes to the school
        1. 2026 calendar; fall sales
        2. No, let's not pursue this

6. Treasurers (Mitch/Natasha)
    a. 2025-26 budget
    b. Current Summary:
        i. Previous Month Closing Balance: $50,719.81
        ii. Current Balance: $42,112.88
        iii. Sept Expenses:
            1. Givens Day at Ballpark ($8501.51)
            2. Library Annual Funds ($500)
            3. Teacher Grants ($1321.99)
        iv. BTSB final reconciliation: Under budget by $470.76
        v. Currently collecting payments for Trunk or Treat
    c. 501(c)(3)
        i. Working with Jacob Myer. Email out to contact, no reply yet. May need to contact other former Umbrella Org Members (we have a few names).
7. Communications (Alex/Nicole)
    a. Website: Can we add a "Donate!" or "Support Givens!" page to the PTO site that's up year-round? Every other WGSD elementary school PTO site has this. ;)
        i. Yes, let's put up a page for Donate; Mitch can update previous CC payment page to be a general page
        ii. Nicole to request pics from staff of items PTO has helped fund in their classroom.
8. Equity (Brooke/Cloris)
    a. Bylaws update
        i. District-wide equity meeting Brooke attended; planning an MLK event
9. Upcoming Dates & To Dos

a. TBD: Fall Fundraiser
b. 10/24: Trimester Parties
c. 10/24: Trunk or Treat 5:30pm
    i. Need PS posts to encourage sign-ups for trunks; we have 7 sign-ups so far.
    ii. For quantity of candy, ballpark # of people attending B2SB – make sure NO NUTS
d. 11/3: PTO meeting
    i. Dr. Wiley will talk about principal search 6-6:30pm
e. 11/18: Teacher Conference Meal @ 3pm
f. 12/1: PTO Meeting

10. Committees
    a. Welcome Committee
        i. Stephanie – nothing on radar
    b. Book Fair (Nicole)
        i. Do PS specific push for this
        ii. Will be held the week of conferences: w/o 11/17
        iii. Potentially plan for this to transition to PTO in 2026-2027 school year
        iv. Need more volunteers; will continue to push this in PS/weekly newsletter/social and work w/ Mrs. Olson on visibility.
    c. Large Initiatives
        i. October 29th at 7:30pm
        ii. Update on $38k from Prop S
            1. Idea for how to spend $15k
                a. Save? A small number
                b. Spend? A larger number
            2. Idea from Marie: springboard to learning (brings diversity and art into school)
        iii. Thoughts on how to move forward: student vs. teacher spend
        iv. Opportunities:
            1. Teacher lounge
            2. Givens Sign
            3. Tree for playground

11. Opens
    a. Finger Printing
    b. Buzz Book, class assignment