SCARLETT MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSO

Meeting Minutes
May 8th, 2026 – 6:30 pm to 8 pm

Our Mission: To facilitate close cooperation among parents, teachers, and students in order to raise funds for a variety of enrichment opportunities and foster a strong learning community!

Welcome and Introductions

- Kelly Pfeifer (President), Principal Vasquez, Sarah Anton (Co-treasurer), Kristen Ochomogo, Vicki Engling (Corresponding Secretary), Ashley Vaduva, Tim Vaduva, Ryan Quinn, Samantha Quinn, Leslie Trahan, Ryland Trahan, Omar Sowe (Vice-President), Ashley Tellez (Recording Secretary), Chris Thomas (teacher and presenter)
- Erika Washburn and Dr. Peterson via Zoom

Presentation about AI initiatives in the district by Chris Thomas

- Started with students with support of three district educators, Chris Thoms, Kaytee Bellows, Dr. Heather Kellstrom. For two years students developed an AI Rights and Responsibility Council and collected data. Community and parent input will start in Fall of 2026.
- Programs have embedded guardrails which is why using school devices with security measures is important. Programs are not like Chat GPT, instead they are designed/built for specific assignments.
- As a teacher tool, it can be used for lesson prep. The teacher initiates the AI task and reviews/edits material–is optional.
- Proposed usage in grade levels
    - Elementary: Reinforce precautions regarding AI
    - Middle school: Teacher centered usage for specific tasks
    - High school: More student driven usage for specific tasks
- AI is here and students are already using it. Teachers want to know how to use safely and how to navigate student usage.
- Difficult to disperse information and training to teachers due to ongoing contract negotiation in the district. There are teachers in each school building who are piloting and informally introducing colleagues to use.
- Recognize the environmental costs of AI.
- Parents express distrust of the district leadership and are concerned how AI may be used to justify increased classroom size.

Principal Report–Principal Dr. Vasquez

- MSTEP tomorrow. In the next 10 days, students will finish NWEA.
- 8th grade boat cruise and promotion ceremony are coming up.
- Behavior issues have been forefront in the last weeks of school

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- Principals were informed that field trips requested after May 1st were to be cancelled due to limited booking and transportation options.
- 7th grade interdisciplinary field trip coming up.
- Music concerts this week and next.
- Staff were very appreciative of staff appreciation week.

Approval of April Minutes
Meeting minutes approved.

President's Report Kelly Pfiefer
- Gratitude to Sam and Ryan for Staff Appreciation week and meals for monthly meetings.
- Board Nominations–Vote to approve board nominations passed
    - President: Ashley Vaduva
    - Vice-President: Omar Sowe
    - Recording Secretary: Ashley Tellez
    - Corresponding Secretary: Leslie Trahan
    - Treasurer #1: Shannon Considine-Dunn
    - Treasurer #2: Elizabeth Seif
    - PTOC representative: Kristen Ochomogo
- Volunteer recruitment of non-elected positions
    - Fundraising Chair: considering a committee for this position.
        - Shannon suggested at a previous meeting fundraiser company that Carpenter used.
    - PTO Thrift representative–Leslie Trahan
    - Spirit Wear: OPEN
    - Staff Appreciation–Sam Quinn

Treasurer's Report & Budgeting - Sarah Anton (Co-treasurer)
- Wing Family donation account is now at bank
- Lots of spending in the spring for staff hospitality and field trips.
- Still in a good place fiscally but will need to fundraise for next year.

PTOC–Raquel Parker & Kelly Pfeifer
- No update, PTOC meeting is happening concurrently.

Open Discussion
- Gratitude to volunteers and meeting attendants.
- No meeting in June.

Meeting adjourned