Givens PTO 2026-2027
Monday, September 14, 2026
6:00 pm / Givens Library

1. Principal Updates
2. Presidents (Betsy/Jake)
    a. Introductions
    b. Large Initiatives - goal: plan in place by end of school year and/or breaking ground; have some volunteers signed up for these so will form small committees
        i. Teacher's Lounge
            1. Request staff input
            2. Phased approach
        ii. Courtyard
            1. Request staff input
    c. Teacher Grant Requests
        i. 3D Printer (TBD whether this is official bc Mrs. Mohr has one)
        ii. Amazing Generation class set of books (Mrs. Mohr requested, $350, Betsy let her know she has library funds of $500. Does she want $500 + books? Waiting to hear back)
        iii. Grill (Mrs. Cook, $300) - all agree this is fine to purchase
        iv. Field Trip Snacks (Mrs. Go, $26 for field trip) - yes, OK for Mrs. Go to purchase and send receipt to Betsy; she can still use tax exempt
    d. Buzz Book
        i. Awaiting final list from Derek; then info will be owned by PTO. Nicole/Jess to send Buzz Book link to community w/ request to add kids' class names
    e. Parent Education
        i. Anxious Generation / Amazing Generation - same counselor is offering workshop for Amazing Generation. Do we want to do this workshop again? Do we also/instead want to do Amazing Generation workshop? Audrey will head this up. Betsy will fwd Audrey the email. Probably evening workshop.
    f. PTO Closet
        i. Betsy will follow-up with Sharnez to schedule time to clean this out. Maybe add plaque "PTO Closet".
3. Treasurers (Mitch/Natasha)
    a. 2026-2027 Fundraising Goal - $29,000
        i. Fall Fundraiser: $8,000
        ii. Trivia Night: $18,000
        iii. Spirit Wear: $1,500
        iv. Dine Out: $1,500 (raised $520 for progressive dinner)

b. Total in account
    i. $66,938 is currently in our account
    ii. $25K for larger initiative project
c. 501(c)(3) - to file as non-profit status
    i. Almost complete!

4. VP Administration (Madeline)
    a. Staff Favorite Things - new list filled out this year; got upwards of 35 responses. Are Sharnez and Meg's birthdays on the list? Madeline will check. Naee'Simmons is new admin (new Mrs. Peeples).
    b. Stocking the Lounge
        i. Continue with monthly stocking of the lounge with a Happy Birthday Sign
        ii. Spent $177.19 so far
        iii. Stocked for Aug./Sept. already. But much is already gone.
        iv. Staff: Coffee maker and air fryer would go a long way. But air fryer may be hazard.
        v. Electrical updates may be what's needed in the Lounge.
        vi. Is there empty space in the building to move the teacher's lounge? No empty classrooms. Band room is storage room.
    c. Amazon Wish List
        i. Will be sent out to parents with further items to stock the teacher's lounge and will ship directly to the school
        ii. How should we get this out? Nicole/Jess to communicate this link via Dispatch / socials.
5. VP Community (Erin)
    a. Room Parents
        i. Sign-ups looking good.
        ii. Training Document and time
        iii. Keep putting in Den Dispatch
    b. Back to School Bash 9/11, 5-7pm
        i. Attendees: ~350 (158 adults and 195 kids)
        ii. Cost: ~$1200 total
        iii. Snow cones sold: 207 for ~$775
        iv. Pizzas sold:
            1. in advance: 31 cheese, 26 pepperoni, and 12 sausage.
            2. By the slice: 17 cheese slices, 14 pepperoni slices, 4 sausage slices
            3. Things to note for pizza: put in request for papa John's to label pizzas
        v. Things to consider:

1. Should we still have police and fire come? I never saw any kids go check out their cars/truck. Maybe an announcement could have helped?
2. Tables: 13 tables needed this year. Will need to secure at least as many next year.
3. Perhaps getting a few new games for next year.
    a. Costco has a huge Guess Who game - maybe we purchase this for next year.
4. Publish thank you in Den Dispatch

c. Progressive Dinner 9/19
    i. Raised $520 in ticket sales
    ii. Nicole to request in PS that 2 tickets are left for Prog Dinner

6. VP Fundraising (Audrey)
    a. Dine Outs
        i. Chipotle September 28
        ii. Parkmoor, October 22
        iii. Jet's November 23
    b. Lava Island
    c. Wine Night – start selling tickets after holidays; Audrey to send Nicole file for save the date to go in Dispatch.
    d. Spirit Wear: Spicy Ink website is live…missing anything? Communication plan: put hard copy flyers in backpack mail (run by Sharnez) w/ Chipotle dine-out. Let Audrey know how many more we need.
    e. Fall Fundraiser – Jake
        i. Givens Healthy Kids Day - activities: relay, strength competition, race (each sponsored by community partner) Goal: 2 title sponsors (Mercy, BJC - Jake is working on getting support); others: smoothie samples, providers (hearing/vision); he should have major commitments in next 1-2 weeks (ideally $5k raised from sponsors). Timeline: try to do it 30 days from now. Sat morning. Would like to make this free for families but suggested donation would be good idea. Target Sat. Nov. 7 or 14.
            1. Megan: Will discuss w/ Coach Hawthorne how to make activities inclusive/accommodations.

7. Communications (Nicole/Jessica)
    a. Prop W from Board https://www.webster.k12.mo.us/prop-w
        i. Should we host an objective, district-led information session for Givens? Yes. Open to all members of community (bring anyone who can vote), kid-friendly.

b. Pollinator Paradise
    i. Backpack mail, start socials/Dispatch; maybe a teacher blurb about what it is/how to get involved (Betsy to work on).
    ii. Bridge near Pollinator Paradise is partially broken – Mrs. Go to contact facilities
c. FB Messenger question: where to bring yard signs – front office

8. Equity (Megan/Cloris)
    a. District Meetings - one at end of this month, so will report back
    b. Black Rep - Megan to contact Sharnez (she wants to do this this year, they may have already talked to her)
    c. They will work closely with social worker and nurse to assess needs
    d. Sister circle (6 sessions, $1000), would be the third year supporting this
        i. 6 meetings over the year, has been successful
        ii. All approve funding this.
9. Upcoming Dates & To Dos
    a. 9/19: Progressive Dinner
    b. 9/20: Givens Day at the Cardinals
        i. 318 tickets sold, and 39 tickets donated for a total of 357 out of our allotted 375.
        ii. For next year, need to consider that we were able to accommodate 39 out of the 60 ticket requests for donated tickets.
        iii. For next year: Sun., Sept. 26, 2027 (Amy to make sure Mrs. Brinker is available)
    c. 10/23: Trunk or Treat (Madeline/Yorba heading this up)
        i. Process
        ii. Locations to reserve - Betsy putting in facilities request
        iii. Consider charging $10 per trunk? No.
        iv. We have $500 set aside in budget, for getting candy including nut-free and trinkets
        v. 30 spots
        vi. Event cannot start until 6pm; setup time TBD; treating starts at 6:30pm; don't do pizza; votes counted by 7:15pm; 7:30pm gone
        vii. Passport stamped at each car so each kid goes around ONCE (print multiple passports if people lose them)
        viii. Rain plan: have this in the gym
        ix. No movie
        x. Police will be present
        xi. Sharnez will create an Insta to promote candy wars.

d. 10/30: Trimester Parties
e. 11/7 or 11/14: Fall Fundraiser
f. w/o 11/16: Parent-Teacher Conferences
    i. TBD: Meals @ 3pm
    ii. Book Fair
g. 12/3: 4th and 5th Grade Concert
h. 2/18: Wine Night
i. 2/19: Trimester Parties
j. 3/4: 2nd and 3rd Grade Concert
k. 4/3: Trivia Night
l. 4/29: K and 1st Grade Concert
m. 5/7: Trimester Party

10. Welcome Committee Recap (Stephanie/Ashley)
    a. **Kindergarten Yard Sign Delivery**
        i. 36 Kindergarten yard signs were delivered.
    b. **New Family Bags**
        i. Bags for new non-Kindergarten students included a cinch sack, a Givens T-shirt, a water bottle, and a WGHS football game ticket.
        ii. These were provided to Ms. Aguilar and Mr. Peloquin for distribution at their newcomers breakfast during the first week of school. We will also check in with the office in January 2027 for any mid-year arrivals.
    c. **First Day of School Decorations**
        i. Balloon arches, music, banners
        ii. Look at doing something additional on playground for kindergarteners next year
    d. **New Staff Gifts**
        i. Welcome gifts consisting of a Givens coffee mug, candy, a coffee gift card, and a note from the PTO were given to all new staff members.
        ii. Gifts and flowers were also given to our new principals.
    e. **Kindergarten Playdates**
        i. We held three summer playdates with great attendance. Pairing the final playdate with the "Popsicles with PTO/Meet the Principals" event was very successful.
    f. **Additional Updates**
        i. Grade Level Summer Playdates: These were canceled this year due to low attendance in the prior year.
        ii. Grade Level Caregiver Meetups: We are still seeking coordinators to ensure all grade levels are covered.

iii. Boo Hoo/Whoo Hoo Breakfast: This event was on hold for this year. We can discuss reinstating it or pivoting to a new format with the principals if there is future interest.

11. Opens
    a. Holiday Maker's Market - Ashley Parker said she'd spearhead this; company comes to school to purchase gifts.
    b. Book Fair (Nicole / Megan) - week of Nov. 16, during P/T conferences; Nicole working w/ Mrs. Mohr to nail down dates for volunteer needs; Nicole will create sign-up sheet and begin communicating volunteer needs first week in October.