

Date: Monday, September 28, 2026

Time: 5:00 - 6:15 pm

Location: Murray Middle School Library and via Google Meet

Attendees:

Assistant Principal: Soraya Folley

Family Engagement Coordinator: Stefanie Folkema

PTO Co-President: Lynnae Erwin

PTO Co-President: Mandi Rupp

Treasurer: Nia Anderson

Secretary: Kerrin Flanagan

Sandy Johnston

Jon Johnston

Dolly Langer

Nick Davis

Nick Altringer

Students: Calvin Schwartz, Henry Davis, Oscar Hanson

Welcome, Introductions

Student Presentation: Students Henry Davis, Calvin Schwartz, and Oscar Hanson presented about the Murray Robotics Team's participation in First Tech Challenge. 3M has traditionally sponsored the Robotics Team, but they are not funding it this year. The team needs \$1,704 in order to participate in FTC this year. Registration is this Friday. National registration; \$395, Challenge kit: \$599, Qualifier tournaments; \$710. Soliciting sponsors and exploring other fundraisers. Nia will start a dedicated GiveMN fundraising site.

**Assistant Principal
Update - Soraya**

- 542 student head count
- Busy beginning of the year, but seamless
- New AP Ms. Walker
- Some extra tardies due to students' learning the new system keeping backpacks in lockers and only carrying binders. Binders have been ordered for students who need them.
- 140 kids participating in athletics
- Committees, PLCs, and now grade-level team meetings happening

Budget Update - Nia	● Savings \$2,300.79 Directed donations (Teacher support, History Day, ECFE/ECSE) ● General \$373.35 Payments: ○ \$375 - Doodle Booth ○ \$250 - DeGidio's deposit ● Mutual Aid \$3,891.48 ● School accounts (add for sports, theater, PBIS?)
New Business/Questions	● EDL Grant Check? \$2,500 check was sent here, but it is MIA. ● <u>Staff Favorites</u>: Hoping to have this included in the staff newsletter so that we can get goodies for staff in February ● <u>PTO Funds Request</u> ○ Ms. Folkema: staff shout-outs (gift cards) ○ Mr. Altringer: robotics team ○ Use the online form for transparency and efficiency
PTO Events	● Sept 14-25: APEX Color Games (\$4765 raised) ● Oct 12: Chipotle ● Oct 13: Punch Pizza ● Oct 26: Raising Canes ● Nov 16: Give to the Max Day ● Nov 30: Panera ● Dec 7: Portillo's ● Jan 23: Silent Auction at DeGidios – will start collecting donations soon, solicit volunteers. Costs \$25/person so we will charge \$35 in advance and \$50 at the door. Games at the event as well. ● Feb 1: Panera ● Mar 15: Raising Canes ● Apr: ● May 3: Panera ● Jun:

Murray Events	• Sept 25th: Color Run • Conferences/meals (Anita and Lauren are coordinating) • Oct 15th-18th: Grade DC Trip • November Thanksgiving meal planning – Can we partner with an organization?
Murray Highlights	• Photos/quotes for newsletter • Chili cookoff • DC trip, sporting events, etc. • Student/staff awards
Murray Market (Mandi)	• Limited scope; focus on toiletries, cleaning products, food items limited, used clothing (including recycling lost & found) • Loaves & Fishes donations: Need to qualify as hub partner now, applying for that soon • Reached out to Second Harvest Heartland, will reach out to Sanneh Foundation • Students are asking when the market will open; need is there • Proposed Days: TBD, either Tue/Wed or Wed/Thu during Foundations • Every Meal is starting up • Kids in Need: teachers can “shop” quarterly for supplies and once-a-month laminating
	Ms. Folley raised the issue of students who are in athletics but who might need help with rides and/or physicals. Should we have a volunteer signup website for snacks, water, carpools, etc.? Yes!
Next Meeting	Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 5pm