Givens PTO 2026-2027
Monday, October 5, 2026
6:00 pm / Huatulco in Rock Hill

1. Principal Updates
    a. Givens Who's Who or website update to help guide parents on who and how to contact
2. Presidents (Betsy/Jake)
    a. 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. Requesting staff input
            2. Phased approach
        ii. Courtyard
            1. Requesting staff input
    b. Teacher Grant Requests
        i. Perkins (3D Printer) - It's under $300, so would already be approved. But Dr. Givens will reach out to tech to see why more people at Givens can't use Mrs. Mohr's 3D printer.
        ii. Mohr (books): opting to use annual library funds from PTO for a set of books. Natasha will ask Mitch if the $500 has been sent. If not, hold these funds.
        iii. Cook (grill): delivered. Can PTO use that in future events? Ms. Cook offered! For ex., 5th grade moving up ceremony.
    c. Parent Education
        i. Anxious Generation / Amazing Generation - same counselor is offering a workshop for Amazing Generation.
            1. Audrey will head this up. Mrs. Mohr wants to coordinate on Amazing Generation. Looking to do this in March, before Spring Break.
        ii. Bristol PTO: "Screenagers: Growing up in a Digital Age" in partnership with other elementary schools. $400 to be split among hosts.
            1. Groups likes this idea in theory; questions: Is there a talk? Why is it $400?
    d. Fall Fundraiser Update
    e. Sharnez Books - maybe we work in conjunction with Novel Neighbor; Scholastic Book Fair probably wouldn't work to promote her book.
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 $1,313.51 so far! Only $186.49 left goal)
1. Raised $837.06 from progressive dinner
2. Raised $476.45 from Chipotle

b. Spent last month
i. $8,789.34 - Check for Cardinals tickets
ii. $1,539.50 - Back to school bash (budget was $1,500, but we purchased 3 new games for next year)

c. Account Balance
i. $57,640.55 is currently in our account
ii. $25,000 is set aside for larger initiative project

d. 501(c)(3) - to file as non-profit status
i. Mitch is our hero! Betsy sent the group the new EIN. Through May, the old EIN will still work.

4. VP Administration (Madeline)
a. Stocking the Lounge
i. Continue with monthly stocking of the lounge with a Happy Birthday Sign

b. 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

c. November Conference Meal: please schedule for 11/19 at 3pm in the lounge

5. VP Community (Erin)
a. Progressive Dinner was a success!
i. 23 guest attendees
1. 6 host houses
a. 3 families (6 people) hosted the appetizer house
b. 4 dinner houses with 10 hosts
c. 2 families (4 people) hosted the dessert house
2. Total people attending: 53 when you include all the hosts plus the guests.

ii. Total raised $837.06 (fees for credit card purchases)
iii. What should we do the same next year? Different?
1. Suggestions from Nicole: Push back a couple weeks into Oct. There was a lot going on in Sept. Space out calls for host homes and ticket sales (some were getting confused).

b. Room Parents
i. Still need room parents for a few rooms

1. Can we incentivize this participation?
    a. Special lunch with child
    b. Attendance at school assemblies
2. Need to schedule room parent training; distribute training document
3. Erin to email teachers so they can reach out to parents directly. Mrs. Go can provide emails. Also pushed the need for specific classroom parents on social.

ii. Holiday-themed party guidance – keep 10/30 party fall themed (Party: 1:45-2:30)

6. VP Fundraising (Audrey)
    a. Dine Outs
        i. Chipotle, September 28 - $476.45
        ii. Parkmoor, October 22 → Audrey to get flyer
        iii. Jet's November 23
        iv. Possible Givens Night at Urban Air?
    b. Lava Island give-back night **2/4 4pm-9pm**
    c. Urban Air Family Night
    d. Wine Night – start selling tickets after holidays; save the date has been posted to Peach Jar, Den Dispatch, and will be posted to socials.
    e. Spirit Wear: Spicy Ink website is live. Flyer has been posted to Peach Jar, Den Dispatch, and will be posted to socials.
    f. Fall Fundraiser – Jake
        i. Givens Healthy Kids Day - 3 main activities: relay, strength competition, race (each sponsored by community partner, ideally $5k raised from sponsors, and $10 per family cost)
            1. Will be on Sat., Nov. 14 10am (last about 3 hours)
            2. Goal: 2 title sponsors. We have 2 sponsors but need a 3rd.
            3. Outreach: Jake to send doc to group so we can all help with outreach to community partners (smoothie samples, providers, fitness, (hearing/vision).
            4. Betsy to reserve Givens space
            5. Megan: Will discuss w/ Coach Hawthorne how to make activities inclusive/accommodations.
            6. Jake would love to get any data we may have about health barriers to care in our demographic. Betsy to send Title I info.
7. Communications (Nicole/Jessica)
    a. Pollinator Paradise

        i. 10/24 is the next work day. Can we include social updates and Parent Square info? Yes, Nicole has this scheduled.
        ii. Bridge near Pollinator Paradise is partially broken – Mrs. Go to contact facilities
    b. Backpack Mail: plan to do one print/insert per month. Use outside printing if possible. Fall Fundraiser will be our November backpack mail.
    c. Parent Square posting cadence: Den Dispatch posts every other Friday (Nicole sends updates to Sharnez by Wednesday); plus special posts as-needed (e.g., reminders)
    d. Need to communicate:
        i. Title I Zoom Meeting 10/8 @ 6pm (Sharnez posted this to Parent Square a couple days ago; we'll post to socials).
        ii. 10/29 Prop W, 6-7pm meeting in Givens Library. For Givens families only.
8. Equity (Megan/Cloris)
    a. District Meetings - last meeting was for HS PTOs so Megan did not attend.
    b. Black Rep – Sharnez has a contact at Black Rep. Will reach out and get back to us but would like to schedule a performance.
    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.
    e. Thanksgiving Food Drive? Megan meeting Thurs. 10/8 with Sarah A. about whether or not we'll do Fall food drive this year
9. Upcoming Dates & To Dos
    a. 10/23: Trunk or Treat (Madeline/Yorba heading this up)
    b. 10/30: Trimester Parties
    c. 11/14: Fall Fundraiser
    d. w/o 11/16: Parent-Teacher Conferences
        i. 11/19: Meals @ 3pm
        ii. Book Fair
    e. 12/3: 4th and 5th Grade Concert - Alex will bring flowers and Pepsi. Consider having 2 students present these to Mrs. Cook and Mrs. Brinker.
    f. 2/18: Wine Night
    g. 2/19: Trimester Parties
    h. 3/4: 2nd and 3rd Grade Concert
    i. 4/3: Trivia Night
    j. 4/29: K and 1st Grade Concert
    k. 5/7: Trimester Party

10. Opens
    a. **Trunk or Treat**
        i. 5th grade committee to raffle inflatable Halloween decoration (need donor for this), and sell glow sticks.
        ii. Rock Hill police presence at Trunk or Treat on 10/23 from 6-7:30pm.
        iii. Candy Wars: 6 boxes--one for each grade level that can be housed in the office.
            1. Run 10/12-10/21; Kids turn in candy to a bin that is outside of the grade level. Aides will bring candy to the front office at 8:30am each morning.
            2. Winning grade level: all kids get free ticket to Urban Air
        iv. We have $500 set aside in budget, for getting candy including nut-free and trinkets
        v. 30 spots for trunks; free to have a spot
        vi. Event starts at 6pm; setup time TBD; treating starts at 6:30pm; don't do pizza; votes counted by 7:15pm; 7:30pm done
        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. Sharnez can create an Instagram video to promote candy wars. PTO should also promote candy wars on social
    b. Holiday Maker's Market - Not moving forward with this at this time.
    c. Book Fair (Nicole / Megan) - week of Nov. 16, during P/T conferences; Nicole has contacted Mrs. Mohr to nail down dates for volunteer needs; Nicole will create sign-up sheet and begin communicating volunteer needs ASAP.
    d. Cardinals Game
        i. 2026: a success! 356 community members attended.
            1. Great seats!
        ii. 2027 date set for Sept. 26. Price will not go up; Amy working to maybe bring cost down.
    e. **PTO Closet**
        i. Johnny is going to do a first pass of the room; then PTO can access to organize/clean out