MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUTH

MSS PTO Meeting Minutes

Date: September 29, 2026
Location: MSS
Called to Order By: PTO Co-Presidents at 7:05 p.m.
Attendance: Mr. Dangler, Mrs. Olsen, Leah Kalhoun, Heather Schumacher, Jessie Larson, Sonia Delm, Rosa Castaneda, Heather Wooden, Katie Barr, Tessa Zevallos, Stacey Crossman, Danielle Speciale and Jan Yglesias

Approval of Previous Minutes

- The September 1, 2026, meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

MSS Staff and PTO Executive Reports

Principal's Report

Mr. Dengler

- No school on October 9 and 12
- Friday, October 2 is the All School Activity Night
- Parent/teacher conferences are coming soon
- Lake Zurich Fire Dept. (Station #1) is hosting an open house on October 04, 2026, from 9:00-1:00 for students in 8th grade and older.

Teachers' Report

Mrs. Olsen - Teaches 6th Grade Math & Social Studies

- Ms. Harper will be submitting a grant request to support music field trips
- Eagles Rise Up is a service club with no budget so they might submit a grant request also
- After 20 years, teachers will no longer be planning the 8th grade trip to Washington D.C. Looking for parent volunteers to organize it moving forward. Teacher team has detailed information to help with the planning transition. Sign up for next school year's trip would typically happen in November or December of this year.
- Musical is requesting PTO volunteers to run the concession stand during the show performances. Profits will be split between the musical and the PTO. A similar arrangement might be pursued for the orchestra solo and ensemble competition in February.

PTO Co-Presidents' Report

Leah Kahoun and Heather Schumacher

- District Updates

    - Red Ribbon Week is coming up October 19, 2026 – October 23, 2026
    - LZHS homecoming was hosted outside and was a big hit; likely to keep it this way
    - Other schools at exploring new spirit wear vendors; we will solicit feedback on their experience but no other action being taken at this time
- Foundation Updates
    - 280 tickets have been sold for the Wizards game on October 29 at the LZHS field house
    - MSS PTO needs to provide volunteers to help at the event which will be divided into two shifts with two people volunteering for each shift

PTO Secretary's Report

Rosa Castaneda and Jan Yglesias

- September 1 meeting minutes will be posted to the MSS PTO web page soon

PTO Vice President's Report

Jessie Larson

- No Stress Fundraiser
    - Flyer is ready to run the fundraiser during the month of October
    - Grade/class battle for a surprise award for the highest percent participation
    - Hitting the total fundraising goal of $6,000 earns a reward for the entire school.
- Possible New Fundraisers
    - MSS yard sign sale
    - Restaurant night at Wendy's which will offer a 30% share of sales with MSS
    - Battle House event, possibly on a day off school, which will split ticket sales 50/50 with MSS for up to 50 tickets

PTO Treasurer's Report

Sonia Delm

- Revised the No Stress Fundraiser budget from $7,700 to $6,000 which changes the net income for the year to $1,956
- A motion was approved to accept the 2026/2027 school year budget as modified.

Committee Reports and Presentations

Recent and Upcoming Events

- **All School Activity Night (Oct. 2)**
    - Donations are being received and plans were finalized during meeting
    - 10 pizzas and 30-40 hot dogs will be purchased for concession sales during the event along with the donated snacks and drinks

- **MSS Boys & Girls Cross Country Sectionals (Oct. 10)**
  - PTO will request donations for concessions for the runners and spectators
  - PTO is also asked to provide volunteers to run the concessions
  - Heather Wooden will set up a sign-up genius for concessions and volunteers
- **Red Ribbon Week**
  - District 95 is observing this event October 19-23, 2026.
- **Halloween Bash (Oct. 23)**
  - Planning is underway and volunteer sign-ups are being collected
- **Haunted Hallway (Oct. 23)**
  - Plan is to have two hallways – one that's spooky and one that's all jump scares
- **Grants**
  - Request form will be converted to a Google form to be provided to teachers
  - Deadline for the first opportunity for grant requests is October 20
  - The second opportunity for grant requests will be in February
- **All Student "Cross Town" Activity Night (Dec. 4)**
  - Topic deferred to next PTO meeting

Standing Committees

- **Communications/Directory, Heather Wooden and Katie Barr**
  - Working on troubleshooting Membership Toolkit platform and app
  - Next newsletter is going out on Friday
- **Joanie's Closet**
  - Coat drive in November
  - Goal for teachers is to donate a pair of gloves per teacher to help stock the November coat drive
- **Restaurant Night**
  - Chipotle in Lake Zurich is on October 6 from 5:00-9:00 p.m.
  - November's restaurant night will be coordinated with parent/teacher conferences
- **Inventory Manager**
  - Issac Fox is interested in sharing a 10x10 storage unit but the cost is $70/month/school
  - Will be discussed at a future meeting
- **Spirit Wear**
  - Items order from the most recent sale have been delivered
- **Hospitality**
  - Delivered pre-ordered meals to MSS staff during McAlister's restaurant week

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New Business

- There was no new business to address

Action Items Summary

Action Item	Owner
Arrange PTO volunteers for Wizards game	PTO Board
Explore suggested new fundraising opportunities	Jessie Larson

Recruit parent volunteers for cross country sectionals concessions	PTO Board
Convert grant request form to a Google form	Jessie Larson

Meeting Adjourned at 8:28 p.m.