

Friends of SMS/SHS Meeting Minutes

Date: March 12

Time: 8:30 AM

Location: Flex Space

Members Present

Megan Cotton

Nicole Graves

Justine Kolev

Creela Hamlin

Brad Lundvick

Krista Schrotenboer

Birdie Holley

Rebecca Andexler

Jennifer Klungle

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 8:30 AM.

Approval of February 19 Minutes – Approved.

2. Treasurer Report – Nicole Graves

Nicole provided the financial report (attached).

The board approved transferring \$25,000 from the checking account into a Money Market Account (MMA).

Roll Call Vote:

- Nicole Graves – Yes
- Creela Hamlin – Yes
- Brad Lundvick – Yes
- Krista Schrotenboer – Yes
- Birdie Holley – Yes
- Rebecca Andexler - Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

Additional notes:

- Next year's budget should include line items for Spirit Week and Student of the Month, as these expenses are currently being paid from discretionary funds.
-

3. Parent-Teacher Conferences – Rebecca Andexler Update

Rebecca shared an update via communication with the group.

Plan for spring conferences:

- One night will include a parent-provided meal.
- One night will include a catered meal for staff.

The group is currently exploring Happystance as the catering option.

Funds for the meal are already budgeted.

4. Ice Skating Field Trip Recap – Birdie Holley

The 7th grade field trip to the Holland ice rink was a success.

Highlights:

- All students participated and tried skating.
- Teachers shared very positive feedback.
- Garrett noted it was a great experience for students.

Future considerations:

- The rink has a maximum capacity of 50 students, which may limit future participation.
 - The group discussed potentially using the Grand Rapids Griffins ice rink next year to accommodate more students.
-

5. 7th/8th Grade Dance Recap – Justine & Creela

The dance was successful and well attended.

Reminder:

- The disco ball stored in Lewis's room belongs to Friends of SMS/SHS and is available for use at dances and events, including high school dances.

Future considerations:

- Possibly moving the dance later in the year (March or April) when weather is warmer.
 - This would allow use of the courtyard space.
 - The group also discussed the possibility of adding lighting outside to expand the dance area.
 - Have a staff member present to enforce rules and/or discipline if needed
-

6. 6th Grade Fun Night Update – Creela Hamlin & Julie Barman, March 13th 6-8p

Planning for 6th Grade Fun Night is going well.

Event needs include:

- Basketballs
- Volleyballs
- Speaker for music

The group continues coordinating logistics with the school.

7. Drama Club Update – Justine

Drama Club recently held a parent planning meeting with strong attendance.

Updates:

- The group hopes to increase funding through local business sponsorships.
 - They may coordinate these efforts with the Serve-A-Thon fundraiser.
 - Drama parents may assist with securing business donations as part of Serve-A-Thon efforts.
-

8. Spring Field Trips

Roller Rink Field Trip

Updated details:

- Date: May 8
- Time: 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

- Grades: 6th–8th

Status:

- Busing confirmed
- Chaperones filled
- Field trip paid in full

Outdoor Discovery Center “Amazing Race”

Brad & Birdie to meet with the ODC next week to discuss a potential partnership and field trip on May 20th.

9. April Board Elections

Board member terms ending:

- Birdie Holley – President
- Jennifer Klungle – Secretary
- Creela Hamlin – At-Large

Members interested in running should:

- Notify Birdie Holley
- Submit a brief note outlining:
 - Why they want to run
 - Relevant experience or qualifications

Voting will take place at the April meeting.

No major updates at this time.

10. Audit Donation

The board approved donating \$200 to the Community West Legacy Foundation through Community West Credit Union.

The donation recognizes Heidi Hunt, who conducts the Friends of SMS/SHS annual audit at no charge.

Funding source: Discretionary funds

Action items:

- Nicole Graves will issue the check.

- Birdie Holley will provide donation information.
-

11. Principal Update – Brad Lundvick

Brad shared several school updates:

- The school is launching a Sustainability Club working alongside the Junior Achievement program.
 - Both middle school and high school students will attend the Mountain Film Festival at SCA next week.
 - The Anne Frank Exhibit is confirmed and will take place this spring.
-

12. Fall Fundraiser / Serve-A-Thon Planning

During discussion of the fall fundraiser:

- The group discussed aligning the Serve-A-Thon kickoff with Community Night to build excitement and avoid overlapping events.
- Proposed fundraiser dates: September 11 – October 2.

Next steps:

- Birdie will meet with the DES PTO President to discuss coordination.
- Birdie will also reach out to Liz Wilson, organizer of Community Night, to explore collaboration opportunities.
- Nicole will research Fundraising Platforms for next year and make a suggestion to the group.

Rebecca Andexler confirmed she will lead the in-school celebration component.

A Serve-A-Thon planning meeting will be scheduled soon to recruit additional parent volunteers and support various aspects of the fundraiser.

13. Member Comments

Birdie shared that the Athletic Boosters Euchre Tournament was a wonderful event.

The group discussed potentially finding ways for Friends of SMS/SHS and Athletic Boosters to collaborate on events in the future.

14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned.

