



## Desert Shadows Middle School - PTO Meeting Minutes – 3/19/2024

Meeting called to order at 5:31pm, participants 6 in person - 4 online

- **President's Report - Chantal Hause**

Current vendor for spirit wear has agreed to continue to be our vendor next year. It will be simplified and become more self-sufficient.

- **Voting Items:** Motion to approve previous meeting minutes - Motion Passed

- **Treasurer's Report - Brenna Davis**

- A few major things came through. One item is the student planners for next year. The expense needs to be put in the budget (a little over \$3000). There is a planner line item, the cost will be pretty much the same and we will get the money back once school starts.
- Classroom supplies are significantly under budget
- Income over \$41K and expenses over \$22K. Not a huge change.
- Teachers' deadline to submit expenses receipts is April 5th.

- **Fundraising Report and Volunteer Opportunities- Kristina Brown**

- No more giving days until next school year
- Vendors: Nautical Bowls will be in the front of the school on Thursday, March 28. There are two sizes, 3 flavors and a price range of \$8-\$10.

Additional dates are April 12th, April 16th, May 10th and May 23rd.

- Spring Dance.
  - Friday April 12 from 6pm-8pm.
  - Students will be able to vote for a theme. Google form to go out this week.
  - There is a small committee for the dance and we will need approximately 15 volunteers for the night of the dance.
  - School clubs decide whether they will sell food or if there will be food vendors.

- We will get a different DJ to change things up.
- Maybe have the party at a different location in the school.

Gym? Cafeteria? To consider how hot and loud it can get inside any of those options.

- Teacher Appreciation Week. May 6-10. We need a volunteer coordinating it.

- **Teachers' Report - Ms. Magnusson (ELL and Computer Science)**

- March 20 is the last day for grades to be entered. There are still a few teachers finishing entering grades, most are already done.
- Starting standardized testing. Prep in class is already taking place. Things are going great, the beginning of the 4th quarter is always a great start.

- **Principal's Report - Ms Bell (on behalf of Ms Knaeble)**

- Thank you PTO for your monetary donation for the Sound System in the Cafetorium. It will be up and running hopefully before the end of April.
- Looking also for Ipads to help scoring music (Valued \$15K)
- Festival of Sports. The All Star season starts next week (Girls' Basketball and Boys' Wrestling).
- State Testing - TESTING DATES

March 26 & 27- 8TH GRADE AZ SCIENCE

April 8- 8th Grade WRITING

April 9- 7th Grade WRITING

April 11 & 12- 7th & 8th Grades ELA PART 1 & PART 2

April 15-18- 7th & 8th Grades MATH PART 1 & PART 2

Reminder that students should not have doctor appointments during State testing dates. If they are pulled out while taking a test, there is no make up session for that and the test gets invalidated.

The AzSCI is the statewide Science achievement test for Arizona students in Grades 5, 8 and 11 and is administered in three parts. All 8th grade students will take the AzSCI Test on March 26, and March 27.

- MARCH 27 Period 1 will last from 8:00-9:51, all other class periods will be shorter in the morning. Lunch times and afternoon classes will remain as normally scheduled.

AASA is the statewide achievement test for Arizona students in Grades 3-8. All Arizona public school students in Grades 3-8 will take the grade level AASA assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics.

- All 8th grade students will take the AASA Writing Test in their ELA

Classroom on April 8. All students will report to Period 2 as their first class. They will go in order of class periods, and end the day in Period 1.

- All 7th grade students will take the AASA Writing Test in their ELA Classroom on April 9. All students will take the AASA ELA Reading Test in their ELA Classroom on April 11 and April 12.
- All students will take the AASA Math Test in their Math Classroom on April 15 through April 18.
- The week of APRIL 15-18 students will test on two days with their math teacher. On Monday and Wednesday students will attend class periods 1,3, 5, 6, and 7. On Tuesday and Thursday students will attend periods 2, 4, 5, 6, and 8. Class times will be twice as long so that testing can be completed in the students math classroom with their math teacher.

Donations are needed for testing by Tuesday, March 26, 2024. Donations of hard candy, lifesavers and mints can be delivered to the front office. [Click here](#) to donate.

All students are required to have wired headphones for testing.

Ms Saely also wanted to share that Mimic testing has shown growth for our students.

The AASA website gives resources with links to testing format with answers for practice.

- Teachers and staff are focused on preparing students for testing, showing them testing strategies and skills.

- **UPC Report**

- Next meeting is on March 27 and it is about Combating bullying with kindness.
- The committee for literature is closing on April 25.
- Looking for donations for their PROM boutique (gifts cards for restaurants and attire). They can be dropped off at district.

- **Additional Items discussed**

- School was able to order new equipment for sports
- The new sound system for school is Wifi
- Garden is in full bloom. Students are visiting with Mr Hartzel. It is a Natural Garden Escape.
- Choir had a great Forum competition before spring break in California and each division that competed earned Gold.

- Band is also going this week to California with an opportunity to score music at Disney.
- 50th birthday Celebration for next school year. Suggestions/Ideas:
  - Revamp the spirit wear with a 50th logo
  - Open house to celebrate in the fall with Alumni. Maybe a Weekend celebration.
  - Opportunity to sponsor classrooms (tiles/bricks from donors on campus)
  - Time capsule from the 80's opening ceremony and possibly creating a new Time capsule for the future.
- PTO Board Open positions to be selected by May and ready for next school year.
  - VP / President Elect (ideally a 7th grade parent for a 2 year term)
  - Treasurer
  - Fundraising
  - Communications
  - Hospitality (Especially for Teacher Appreciation)

Questions:

Will PTO provide snacks/lunch and beverages for the 7th grade field trip To Castles and Coasters on April 29?

Yes. Pizza and beverages will be provided for lunch when they return at 1:30pm.

Also snacks and beverages will be provided for the field trip.

Meeting adjourned at 6:38pm

**Next PTO Meetings: Tuesday April 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm**

**Tuesday May 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm**