



# DSMS SIDEWINDER PTO

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## Desert Shadows Middle School - PTO Meeting Minutes – 08-29-2023

Meeting called to order at 5:35pm, 34 participants (14 in-person, 22 Zoom)

### President's Report - Chantal Hause

- Members of the Board introductions and Welcome to the meeting to Superintendent, Dr Bales.
- Dr Bales shared that the PV school district website was recently awarded nationally. You can find a section with information on the Bond Election and the do's and don'ts. Information on classroom expendings with a comparison is also available on the website, district is 1st in the county and 3rd in the state. He said that there will be Bond Election Town Hall meetings in 5 different high schools in September. Dr Bales brought up a few points discussed in the last UPC meeting such as a cabinet assigned to discuss boundary changes and school closings. He also made a call to action to the DSMS PTO. Share Your Pride. Let's think about anything that PTO can do to share the PV school district's achievements and happenings. Possibly Tagging school district news on school's and PTO communications and newsletters.

Lastly Dr Bales answered a few parent questions regarding district STEAM initiatives to be implemented in the future at schools, housing pricing correlation to schools attendance and increase in early release day for teacher's professional development.

### Voting Items

- Motion to approve previous meeting minutes - Motion Passed
- Motion to approve this year's budget - Motion Passed
- Motion to approve Charitable Donation to Support Sweetwater Alternative School - Motion Passed

### Treasurer's Report - Brenna Davis: discussed budget for the year

- Starting Balance: \$13,346.02
- We are wanting to raise: \$40,000.00 – Asking parents for one time donation of \$100
- Fundraising - Budgeted \$8,500
- Principal's Choice – Budgeted: \$1,350

- Hospitality – Teachers and staff meals for conferences and teacher lounge supplies - Budgeted \$4,700
- School Support – Budgeted \$2,000
- Students Support PBIS / Clubs / Awards - Budgeted \$3,150
- Classroom & Teachers Support – Budgeted \$17,550
- Charitable Donations - Budgeted \$250
- PTO Sponsored Events - Budgeted \$2,000

### **Fundraising Report - Kristina Brown**

- Direct Giving Campaign \$40,000 to be raised this year. Suggested ideas to promote direct giving at school events such curriculum nights, conference week and home games.
- Four additional Giving Days at restaurants and businesses
- Leo's Ice Cream truck on site every other friday booked through October
- Kendra Scott shopping event in December.
- Another fundraising events will be the Fall and Spring dances.

### **Volunteer Opportunity - Kristina Brown**

- Fall Dance Friday 10/20/23 6:30pm-8:30pm

Kristina Brown will chair the committee. In need of volunteers to help. Tickets to be sold at the door and also in advance. There will be a DJ and Photo Booth, and the Student Council will get involved providing the food. Students will vote for the theme in early September. Over 500 students expected to attend.

### **Teacher's Report - Ms Magnusson**

- Start to a great year. Things are going well. Students are getting work done, demonstrating good behavior and building relations.

### **Principal's Report - Ms. Knaeble**

- Enrollment numbers close to where expected. Currently there is a wait list of 20-30 students.
- Working on A/C units. Maintenance needs to do hard resets in many units. High temps outside. Students being moved to cooler places.

- Drop off parking lot plan to keep kids safe is working well and the number of tardies is down
- Looking for Volunteers; School is in the process of opening campus back again to volunteers (copies, recess duties, extra hands and eyes on campus, etc)
- Resource teacher position available, looking to fill it by the end of the quarter or semester.
- The DLSI (Dual Language Spanish Immersion) program is going very well. In need of books in Spanish. Asking for donations of any reading Spanish books.

#### **UPC Report - Gardenia Flores**

- The August meeting's main focus was the upcoming Bond Election. District will send a mailer with information to all the residents within the districts' boundaries.
- There will be a UPC gifted education meeting on 9/28 and Special Education meeting on 10/19
- Opportunity of Outreach community. Families can get tickets to the Cardinals and the district will receive a percentage back from the ticket price.
- The fingerprinting process for volunteer chaperones has been streamlined. Time has been reduced in half. It now takes less than 4 weeks.

#### **Additional Items discussed**

- Pridewinder Bucks (to reinforce positive behavior). School needs prizes for random drawings, especially sweet and salty snacks (nut free) and DSMS pride items.
- Teacher Wish Lists – they can be found on the teacher's emails. Principal Knaeble will facilitate a list on the [DSMS Information Folder](#). If parents choose to have amazon shipments directly to the school, please indicate in the shipment requirements that deliveries be done only MON-FRI from 9am to 2pm.
- Looking for Donations of K-cups for Teachers lounge and nut free candy for front office Candy Jar throughout the year
- Principal Knaeble asked if PTO would support Sweetwater Community School this year for donations to their staff. PTO has a Community Support line item on the budget and agrees to support this school and provide as well food for one night at parent/teacher conference week.
- PTO to handle the Choir funds as a booster club. It will only collect the checks and funds will be deposited on a separate bank account of PTO.
- November meeting date will be on Tuesday 11/21/23 at 5:30pm. It will only be online.
- School Garden update. It is open to all students, potentially to create a Garden Club in the future. Mr Hartzel is working with students to learn real life skills in gardening. Additional clean ups are needed. DSMS students will create art creations to add to the garden.

- We LOVE our school family clean up day. The P.E. shed needs to be cleaned out, emptied and its equipment sorted. Principal Knaeble will set a date once temperatures cool down. It will probably be on a Saturday morning. Open for students and their families. Students can earn community service hours.

### **Questions**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:59pm**

Next PTO Meeting September 26th at 5:30pm