Mesa Academy

PTO Meeting

August 14, 2023

Welcome

What is the PTO at Mesa Academy

What to expect in 2023-2024

A motion was made by Alyson at 6:33pm to call the meeting to order. It was seconded by Brooke.

In attendance were Brooke, Lyndsay, Alyson, Emily, Bianca, Tiffany, Chris, Cortney, Jessica, Genessee, Jacqueline, Trisha, Jessa, Keely, David. Also in attendance were Principal Wilfert, Ms Sandoval, and Ms. Tietz

Alyson gave an overview of was PTO is and what we do. She talked about events that we host throughout the year. She explained were the money from the fundraisers go. She highlighted events that are planned for the year.

Treasurer’s Report

July Statement

Explanation of Budget for 2023-2024

Emily shared and reviewed the monthly financial statements and budget reports for July. She also gave a brief explanation of the budget.

Emily also highlighted that adding the academy to your Fry’s purchases is an easy way for parents to help with fundraising for the PTO.

A motion was made by Tiffany to approve the treasurer’s report. It was seconded by Lyndsay. The treasurer’s report was approved unanimously.

President’s Message

Report Back to School events

Spirit Shirt Sales

Elect new officers

Alyson reported that the back-to-school events went well. The events included meet the teacher, new student orientation, back to school breakfast for teachers and back to school lunch for teachers.

It was reported that spirit shirt presales we well this year as it was the first year doing this. Chris brought up that we should explain to new parents why they should buy a spirit shirt for their child. Explain that the students can wear their spirit shirt every Friday.

Our spirit shirt coordinator Lyndsay Reeves stated that online shirt sales would be coming soon. Tiffany brought up an idea to make it possible for others to donate money toward spirit shirts for students who may not be able to afford them. Chris brought up the idea to let parents vote on shirt designs or possibly help create a design for future shirts.

New officers were elected. Chris was elected for fundraising coordinator and Tiffany was elected for events coordinator. Alyson made a motion to elect the new officers. The vote was unanimous.

Teacher Liaison

IXL Request

Needs to address

Ms. Sandoval will be the teacher liaison between the PTO and the teachers for the 2023-2024 school year.

Ms. Tietz attended the meeting and requested funding for the online program IXL which is used in math. Ms. Tietz explained the purpose of IXL and why it benefits the students.

It was stated that Ms. Munoz does not utilize it with her geometry students, but that all 350 licenses were going to be utilized. It was stated that it will be $3675 for 350 licenses. Alyson made a motion to approve the purchase of IXL. The PTO voted and the vote was unanimous.

Communications

Newsletter Email

Social Media posts

Flyers and posters

Lyndsay gave an overview of all the communications that are used to communicate to parents about events occurring. It was brought up that parents would like a landing page on the PTO website for clubs that are at the academy. Lyndsay added a club landing page to the PTO website.

There was a conversation about the Lego League and it’s future at the academy. Lyndsay is going to look into what can be done now that Mr. Pond has retired. It was decided that there will be a Lego league information meeting set up by Tiffany for parents who are interested.

Lyndsay would like to create more posters to put around the school, and at pick up to advertise events that are occurring.

Events

Fat Cats Review

Pie and Bingo Night

Eating for Ed

The fundraising event to kick off the school year at Fat Cats was a success again this year. It was well attended. It was suggested that next year we have more door prizes to give away to those who attend.

The PTO discussed Pie and Bingo night. It was discussed what occurs at this event, and how it is a community building event. The Pie and Bingo night will be help on Friday September 29, 2023. There will be a sign up for people to bring pie to the event. It was decided that homemade pies can be brought as this is an after school hours event hosted by the PTO. Alyson would like a small group to help plan the event. There will be a sign up sent by email for parents to sign up to help. It was brought up that maybe we can involve Piefection in this event by possibly donating pies. Brooke has a connection to the owner of Piefection, and will get in contact with her about a possible donation of pies for this event.

Trisha gave an update of the Eating for Ed events that will be occurring. She gave an update that MOD pizza will be on August 31 and will have 2 locations participating all day. MOD pizza will be giving 30% back to the academy during the event. The Longbow/202 and Higley/Baseline locations will be participating.

September 13th will be Eating for Ed at Sumburros all day at the Longbow location. October will be at Organ Stop.

November will be Chipotle at the McDowell/Power location, Chipotle will be giving 33%.

It was brought up that maybe we can look into coffee places that will participate and give back to the academy. Cup of Joey was a name that was mentioned.

Teacher snacks was also brought up. It was decided that we will budget $30 for teacher snacks. Last year there was a sign up genius for parents to help provide snacks.

There was a conversation about reminding parents about ECA, how it works and where it goes.

Erin is our current dance coordinator. There was a dance last year on November 18th.

It was decided that this year we will have a dance on November 3rd. It will be Harry Potter. It was decided with the help of Principal Wilfert that costumes are fine for the dance as long as there are no masks, and they adhere to the school dress code guidelines. There will be a small fee to attend the dance to help cover costs for the event.

It was brought up that we should have events for parents to be able to get to know each other. There was a conversation about hosting grade specific events for parents, and making sure that MAAS parents can be together at events like Fat Cats for example.

Fundraising

Fun Run – October 25th

The Fun Run will not occur until October, but we need to start planning and fundraising now. Last year we were about to raise $10,000 during the Fun Run.

Alyson would like to make the Fun Run bigger this year. Examples of ways to make it bigger were special shirts and possibly a spirit week.

It was brought up that there should be a separate meeting for the Fun Run.

It was discussed that students should start raising money 7-10 days prior to the event. There is a need to explain to the students why we have the event and to drum up excitement with the students. Last year the students were confused as to why they were running and what it was for.

Chris and Alyson will discuss more about the Fun Run.

NJHS volunteered to help run the event along with possibly the Student Council.

Chris will be providing music for the day of the Fun Run

It was brought up that we could possibly donate something from the run to the community. Sunshine Acres was brought up as a place to donate.

Volunteers

Report on Volunteer positions

Keely discussed on volunteer positions. The PTO newsletter and website have a signup for volunteers. There is also a intake form that is linked to a QR code that is available. The QR code has had mixed results. It was brought up that email is also a good way to communicate for volunteers. It was decided that we go to parents who have signed up and then send those parents an email for spots that need to be filled for volunteering.

Closing

A motion was made by Brooke to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm. It was seconded by Lyndsay. Meeting was adjourned.