Mesa Academy

PTO Minutes

Monday February 12, 2024

**Welcome**

The meeting was called to order by Lyndsay at 6:32pm.

In attendance were Lyndsay, Chris, Brooke, Emily, Tricia, Erin and Ms. Sandoval

**Previous Meeting Notes**

There were no meeting minutes for January as there was no meeting held for the month. The board communicated via email about any topics that needed discussion.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Emily shared and reviewed the monthly financial statements and budget for January.

We made a profit of $305 for the uniform sale at the end of January.

There are a lot of teachers who have not used their grant for the year. Ms. Sandoval will send a reminder email to the teachers who have not used their grants as of now.

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

**President’s Report**

The topic of how to get more parents involved in the PTO was brought up by Lyndsay. Some ideas were presented during the meeting of possible events the PTO could host to attract parents, and get more involvement.

The first idea was a dance for academy families so that families are able to connect with each other, and learn more about the PTO. The second idea was during new student orientation to have some games and food in the MPR along with the uniform sale. The PTO would be available during that time to talk to families and see if we can get some interest. The last idea was to bring back the pool party at the beginning of the year. Erin said she was willing to schedule the pool for that event if the PTO wanted to provide that event.

There will be an invitation extended to all new parents inviting them to attend the last PTO meeting of the year in May. An idea was brought up to possibly provide swag bags for the parents who attend the May meeting.

There was also a thought brought up that other schools currently use of asking parents to sign up and commit to helping out with one to two events that occur during the school year at the beginning of the year.

The PTO decided that we will include a flyer advertising the new student orientation event in the acceptance letters that go out to new students inviting them to attend the event.

**Communications Report**

Lyndsay reported that the newsletter was light this month. The marquee that was displayed for the eating for Ed event worked well. We will be having sandwich boards printed to advertise for the International Festival that will be hosted in April. It was decided that the PTO will start advertising for the International Festival right after the students return from Spring Break.

**Events Report**

Tiffany was not able to attend the meeting to report. Lyndsay will fill in for her, and contact here about any important information brought up during the meeting. There are several events that will be occurring over the rest of the school year.

* The drama club is hosting a movie night in April. The movie WallE will be shown at the movie night. The PTO will help Tiffany with the planning of the event. Ms. Sandoval asked about NJHS and their role involving the movie night. NJHS will be making the flyer to advertise for the movie night. The movie night will be held in the MPR, and the advertising flyer will remind families to bring blankets and chairs to sit on.
* International Festival in coming up on Friday April 12th. This year we will be giving wristbands for entrance into the event. There will be free wristbands provided to any parents who help with the event. There will be a signup genius sent out after Spring Break to parents to sign up to help with the International Festival. ABS will start announcing the International Festival after Spring Break to the students. It was decided that ticket sales will also start after Spring Break. In reference to ticket sales there will be an online store set up through Go Daddy. Tickets will be $5 presale or $7 at the door. The PTO is hoping for more presale tickets this year in order to gauge the number of people that will be attending the event ahead of time. We will have Chris as the DJ at the International Festival. The idea of door prizes was brought up this year, and it was agreed that we would try it. How it will work is that each family will get a ticket when they enter the Festival. There are several places that were brought up as ideas for gift cards for the door prizes. The following were the ideas that were brought up: Pita Jungle, Thai Chili to go, Salsa Cabana, Dolca Vita Gelato, Cornish Pasty Company/Sonsans, Italian-TBA, French-TBA, Red White and Brew. Lyndsay will be setting up a Google Doc with a list of locations to obtain gift cards from so that we can track what has been obtained and what we still need.

Rachel Brown has kids that would like to do a booth during the festival. Ms. Sandoval stated that as long as it is cultural that it should be fine. The two girls wanting to do the booth wanted to know if they will be reimbursed for items purchased for the booth. It was stated that students will have a budget of $50 for their booth that they can be reimbursed for after the event. There are also two groups from Westwood who will have booths at the event. It was noted that the Red Mountain AP council will be attending to help with the event.

* We will have several Eating for Ed events throughout the rest of the year. Kneaders will be held on February 22 from 4pm-7pm. Smashburger will be hosting an Eating for Ed for the Academy on March 6th.

**Dance Committee Report**

Erin informed the PTO members that the student council will be hosting a spring dance on February 23rd. Lyndsay will check in with Rachel Brown to see if student council needs any support from PTO for the dance. Chris will be at the dance as the DJ.

The 8th grade final dance will be held on May 3rd. There will be a committee meeting held with parents who are volunteering to help with the event sometime in March. Erin will be sending students an email with four themes, and they will vote on the theme they most like. The winning theme will be announced on ABS. Erin will book the photo booth that was used during the fall Winter Wonderland dance again for this dance. There is a $1200 budget for the 8th grade dance.

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**Fundraising Report**

No items of business were brought up at this meeting.

**Teacher Liaison**

Ms. Sandoval stated that she had no items of business to bring up at this meeting.

**New Business**

Spirit shirts have been causing a lot of issues this year. There are a lot of parents who have been complaining that they have gotten their children’s spirit shirts late this year, or not at all after ordering them. Lyndsay stated that she will be looking into a new place to print spirit shirts. It was also decided that the PTO needs to come up with a better way to deliver the spirit shirts to the students. We need to be able to have a designated spot to have the spirit shirts in order to distribute and deliver them. It was decided that we need to have the students sign for their shirts in case there is confusion if the students received their shirt or not. We will continue next year to presale shirts again this year at events, as that has been very successful this year.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Brooke to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm. It was seconded by Lyndsay. The meeting was adjourned. The next PTO meeting will be held on March 11th at 6:30pm.