



Madison Heights PTO

Executive Board Meeting Notes

Oct. 7th, 2025

Tristan Called the meeting to order at 8:01pm

Executive Board Members in attendance

Tristan Gandolfi-President

Myra Wintz-Vice President

Claire Todd- Co-Treasurer

Tina Jiwatram-Negrón- Co-Treasurer

Meeting Summary

The team reviewed recent successes and discussed operational updates including the Lost and Found process and the ongoing search for a new secretary. They debated changes to the Fun Run fundraising campaign timeline, ultimately deciding to extend it to mid-November while maintaining existing marketing activities. The group addressed various administrative matters including budget approvals, upcoming events, and sponsorship discussions, while also planning to create more transparent communication around lunch programs and educational funding.

Team Celebrates and Plans Ahead

- The team celebrated recent successes, including a successful Bingo event and progress on the organization of Fun Run.
- They discussed updates on the Lost and Found process, with Ms. Sam selecting items on Fridays to return to teachers.
- The group also addressed the ongoing search for a new secretary, deciding to post publicly after exhausting their internal network.
- Claire mentioned working with Ashley on troubleshooting issues related to the Fun Run platform.
- The group also confirmed that Sweet Republic had agreed to host ice cream socials after music concerts, with a 20% kickback for the school.

SchoolFundr Campaign Timeline and Fun Run

- Claire discussed with the team the SchoolFundr platform's recommendation for a 21-day fundraising campaign instead of the current 7-day period.
- They cited data that shows 60% of donations come in during the first two weeks and 40% in the final week.
- She proposed a soft launch on October 30th, allowing time for donors to contribute over three weeks, though this would require families to use two email addresses for tracking donations.

- The team expressed concerns about the complexity of implementing this change so close to the event.
- They agreed to avoid overlapping communications with the October 28th Dine Out event and to maintain the same marketing and volunteer activities planned for the original timeline.
- Claire will have Ashley prepare a detailed timeline with key dates, which will be shared with teachers and Lee to ensure proper coordination of all events and communications.
- Claire submitted a Fun Run request that Tina inquired about pertaining to sufficiency of day-of expenses. Claire clarified that the budget buffer of \$3,000 would cover the dinner expense and agreed to handle the credit card form through Tristan rather than Tina due to card number restrictions.

Spirit Shirts

- The team discussed spirit shirt inventory, with Myna reporting 7 small, 9 medium, and 4 large shirts remaining in stock, and decided not to place a second order since current supplies were sufficient.

Community Meeting on ESA Vouchers

- The group discussed whether to include a presentation from Save Our Schools about ESA vouchers at an upcoming PTO meeting. They decided against it due to limited agenda space but agreed to consider hosting a separate community meeting in the spring to educate residents about ESA vouchers and public school funding.
- Claire suggested this would be a good opportunity to involve community members and potentially offer both in-person and Zoom options.

Enhancing PBL

- The team discussed the lack of PBL (Project-Based Learning) requests and funding, noting that only one PBL request was approved for a fourth-grade ofrenda project.
- They agreed to create concrete examples of PBLs across different subjects to inspire teachers, with Tina suggesting they could use ChatGPT to generate sample frameworks.

Scholarship and Lunch Funding Debate

- The group discussed a scholarship request and debated how to allocate funds, with Tina suggesting a \$1,000 stopgap measure for the current year while advocating for a longer-term solution involving lunch support and educational aide funding.
- Claire shared her experience with school lunch deficits and highlighted the importance of better communication about lunch balance reminders.
- The discussion also covered fundraising efforts tied to the Fun Run, staff appreciation budget concerns, and the need for more transparency around free lunch applications.

Orthodontist Sponsorship clarity

- The group discussed ongoing conflicts between Blue and Popat orthodontists regarding event sponsorships, with Blue confirming they would rather not co-sponsor with another orthodontist but are open to sponsoring separately.
- They agreed to follow up with Popat in early December regarding their sponsorship status.

- The committee also considered revising fundraising protocols, particularly around sponsorship money allocation between committees, but decided to postpone this discussion until after the holidays when they can review the first half of the year's budget and potentially bring in a new secretary for fresh perspective.

Admin Budget Approval and Projections

- The meeting focused on approving the admin budget, which was set at \$3,500 for the current year and projected to be around \$2,000-\$2,500 for next year.
- Claire noted that the Quicken expense would be \$170 due to a one-time TechSoup discounted rate.
- The group discussed presenting a high-level budget to the community at a future meeting.
- They also reviewed expected income from various events, including Kids' Creations and the book fair, projecting around \$5,500 for the current year.

Event Planning and Access Updates

- The team discussed several upcoming events and logistics.
- Claire proposed a pilot program for read-only access to certain books, which Tina and others agreed to test.
- They planned to give select committee members access to view financial information.
- Tristan provided updates on November events, including Wildlings game night and Ruby Bridges activities. They agreed to promote Ruby Bridges at the upcoming PTO meeting. Tina reminded the group about the need for plates and pizza pickup for Thursday's meeting, which Claire said she would handle.

Tristan Called the meeting to close at 9:10pm