

AG PTO Committee Chair Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 25, 2019

PTO Executive Board Members In attendance: Ghazale Johnston, Rebecca Drendel, Heather Davis, Katie Davis, Sallie Beason, Courtney Lapham; Not in attendance: Diana Jones, Heather Price and Jamie Curtis. General Board members in attendance: Anne Lam, Trina Cone, Melissa Sullivan, Laura Tenzer, Kaylee Lundberg, Monica Roush, Christie Hinshaw, Carmalita Monroe, Dawn Davis.

Meeting began at 8:35 am

Treasurer's Report

- The cost for instructional support applications (Brain Pop and IXL) went up significantly but were planned expenses and in the budget.
- The PTO has given two checks to Sedgefield and we there is a remaining balance is \$3700.
- Extra subaccounts are shown in the budget for Bulldog Club tracking purposes.
- Carryovers are tracked separately for Bulldog Club and AGMS PTO.
- If anyone wants transaction report details for their committee, contact Heather Davis.
- The current budget is updated to reflect all captured increases to budgets (ex. Art).

AG Fund Update

- This week is the last week of the AG Fund campaign and board members feel positive about the participation rate at 24.4% (312 families) currently.
- Current total expected is ~\$96,866. This does not include corporate matches and \$7449 allotted for Sedgefield. Total with Sedgefield deducted is ~\$89,417. As of next year, we will not do a Sedgefield allocation. With expected matches, the expected total is between ~\$100-104k.
- 41% of our donations came from families are zoned for Sedgefield. So this amount of money, is not expected in coming years. We spend about ~\$50k in annual spend. . When we collect less money, there will be a smaller carry over.
- A way to contribute past the end of the campaign will be included in a future Bulldog Bulletin in case pledging money later in the year works better for some families that have not already contributed.

Committee Updates

Sedgefield – update from Dawn Davis

- AGMS PTO gave Sedgefield a check before Christmas and last week. Meeting with the PTO president and they will let us know what they will spend it on.
- Lots of people are touring the school and they have had good prospective parent meetings. They seem prepared for the transition.
- Volunteers are always welcome at Sedgefield, please contact Dawn Davis to volunteer.

Middle School Matters - Laura Tenzer

- We are changing the topic from College Preparedness to Managing your Middle Schooler and changing it to a morning session. Counselors are going to cover topics that parents/ students are concerned about. (e.g, vaping, anxiety, and social media). The Bulldog Bulletin is going out today announcing the time and subject change and Mr. Folk can do a connect education.
- The old AG marquee is currently promoting MSM but Mr. Folk wants the PTO website information on the old AG sign so we don't have to keep changing it.
- Spring event for Middle School Matters – registration for MP is earlier this year. March 8 is when AG returns cards. March 14 is when MP Counselors come to AG to register 8th graders.

Principal Report by Mr. Folk

Transition Team –

- Meeting in February scheduled with Montclair. Planning to meet with Pinewood as well, no meeting set yet. Purpose of meeting is to get to know the leaders, meet the 5th graders, and meet with parent leadership.
- Mr. Folk is in the process of collecting data through the district and the placement office. Sedgfield has a lot of data but it isn't CMS data and Mr. Folk wants to verify the data's accuracy.

Safety

- Butler shooting emphasized our need to look at our safety plans and our measures, and protocols. District is selecting a high school where they are implementing new procedures - wand of students, portable metal detectors and bag checking. May include dogs in school to help identify weapons and drugs. This is only focused on High Schools.
- Mr. Folk is going to send a note to parents to communicate what is coming for high schools and prepare people.
- For AG, adding electronic door locks has been a priority. Locks that you have to have a staff badge to unlock. Now we have the funds to put locks on all exterior doors.
- Mr. Folk asked Margaret Marshall to follow up with the property manager on when adding the locks get done (currently projected for end of year to be installed). We want to get the locks put in before the end of school.
- Locks can be scheduled on timer or you need someone there to unlock the door.
- Mr. Folk was asked to please keep the tours committee up to date with any changes to the locks so they can tour prospective parents without an issue.
- A concern raised about students having to sit in the hall because there aren't enough desks. If students are dispersed, they should not sit in the hall per Mr. Folk. Students should be dispersed into another classroom with a desk. Mr. Folk will send a note to the staff to address this concern. When teachers are absent, they do post the work on Canvas and students should be working on the assignment when they are dispersed.

Spanish

- Mrs. Mattx vacancy (Spanish) – Concern that the students aren't learning at the same rate or level as compared with the students in the other Spanish class because Mrs. Mattx's position hasn't been filled. Courtney Armstrong is covering while the replacement is being determined. There were suggestions to address the gap in the interim: increase the language on-line resources, two weeks with Mrs. Mayes and two weeks without (like PE/ Health), Mrs. Mayes float between classes.
- Mr. Folk said that the eighth grade Spanish students are well prepared for their EOG. They cover a lot of material between their seventh and eighth grade year.

Eighth grade Field trip

- 100 kids have signed up to go to the Biltmore house in March. All kids got the sign up information. Disappointed in participation rate.
- The DC trip required a lot of organization and not all children could go so that was not considered this year. There was feedback last year that it wasn't inclusive.
- There is an eighth grade party and/ or dance being planned and will need to determine the budget so we can ensure we have money to do the end of year activities that we want to do. We can ask eighth grade parents to contribute or sponsor a child. Possible day trips were discussed (e.g., Carowinds, Camp Thunderbird, etc.) The PTO will look into a Carowinds day trip with Charter Buses after exams and will follow up with Mr. Folk.

PTO President updates:

- Nominating committee is in the process of putting together the slate for positions next year (Catherine Bolt is on point for nominations). If you want to keep your position, please let her know. If you want to do something else, please let Catherine know that as well. We should finalize positions in the next month.
- Bulldog Club has had lots of success and has grown in size and therefore their need for it's own governance and autonomy over spending has grown. The Bulldog Club and the PTO Exec board met extensively about this. The PTO Exec board voted to spin off the Bulldog Club to create its own entity (501(c)(3)). Currently the PTO Exec board and Bulldog Club are in process of figuring out their new board by July 1 but that is not a required date for the cut-off to happen. Other middle schools that are comparable to AGMS have their booster clubs as separate entities.
- Prospective Parents meeting in January was well attended with our new feeder school parents. We have new yard signs so please look out for those and that will help our momentum for next year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 am