

Slavens School PTA Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2020

The PTA meeting was called to order on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm via Zoom. In attendance were Katie Ozimek, Meghan Brown, James Urbonas, Tracy Kozak, Kurt Siebold, Melissa Hatchett, Jen Urbonas, Annie Schildwachter, Oz Spies, Timi Bierman, Maria Sadkhi, Stephanie Minior, Stephanie Slaybaugh, Robin Haller, Veronica Elliott (Due to technical issues, several other attendees were not noted)

- I. Approval of September Minutes/Notes (Katie Ozimek/Meghan Brown)
 - **Approved**
- II. EVEReve Shopping Event Update; Fall Wreath & Greens Update (Jennifer Urbonas)
 - EVEReve is a clothing store based out of Utah. We are partnering with them to do an event on October 28. EVEReve will donate 15% back to Slavens. Shoppers will sign up for 2 hour slots with 6 people per slot. Everyone will be wearing masks. Look for more info on this event on social media and through the class liaisons.
 - Amazon Smiles is another great way to give back to the school. Please make sure to use Slavens FOSS on Amazon Smile, not Slavens PTA.
 - Sherwood Forest Farms Fall fundraiser: Sherwood Forest Farms sells wreaths, holiday garlands and center pieces. We will have a local pick up and they will also ship directly to anyone out of town who orders. Orders are due Nov. 6th. If you have any questions, please reach out to Jen Urbonas.
- III. Restaurant Night (Stephanie Minior)
 - Because restaurants are struggling during COVID, we would like to change restaurant night somewhat.
 - Some ideas include:
 - Highlighting those restaurants that have supported Slavens over years and urging people to eat there without asking for a percentage on sales
 - Lower the percentage Slavens receives from the restaurants
 - Do less frequent events, perhaps every other month
 - Try partnering with other businesses that are doing well during COVID, such as liquor stores like Total Wine
 - Stephanie will work through these options
- IV. Cultural Night (Maria Sadkhi)
 - Maria is starting a new type of event for Slavens that is a celebration of culture. Since we cannot gather and enjoy a meal together right now, Maria has come up with a virtual way to get together and cook a meal. Maria has volunteered to be the first host and will be making a Moroccan dish in early November. Families can sign up for the event and they will learn a new recipe and learn about a different culture. Ideally other Slavens families would like to take on another evening and hopefully we can make this a regular event. Maria will send out the recipe and ingredient list to families who sign up. This event is free and will take about an hour.

- V. Treasurer's Report (James Urbonas)
- Middle school activity fees are trickling in slowly
 - School supplies sale has been a success. We received a check for \$6300 from Education Products, which is more than we budgeted.
 - Families have been generously donating sponsorship money. We have received \$8500, which is more than we budgeted.
 - Teacher support provided by PTA: sent emails to every teacher telling them how much can use from PTA in order to promote their learning environment. Not every teacher participates, but it is important to let them know in case they have needs.
- VI. Principal's Report (Kurt Siebold)
- PTA and FOSS have done an amazing job supporting the school. Robin Haller secured a grant through FOSS that covered funds that PTA had already agreed to pay, which was very helpful.
 - Early release days were scheduled and then cancelled at some point, but not having these was a huge ask for teachers and so early release days will be reinstated. We have one coming up on November 6 and one on December 4. We will continue to assess early release days for 2nd semester.
 - Friday (10/16) is a day for conferences but we have given teachers until 11/20 to hold conferences because some teachers wanted to have in-person time with kids first.
 - Given the uptick in COVID cases, the District announced today that middle school will not return in-person until at least November 9. The District makes these decisions based on Denver Health guidelines.
 - Best chance of success is for people to follow protocols, like masks and social distancing. We want to make sure we are following protocols and keeping kids safe
 - Our teachers have been focusing on social and emotional support during this time as we know some kids not thriving in the online environment. Ms. Hana is a great resource to help parents find avenues for social and emotional learning.
- VII. COVID Needs Update (Melissa Hatchett)
- Big shout out to the parents who organized the barrier building days. Another big shout out to the Slavens community members who helped build the barriers so the elementary kids can start off in-person learning feeling safe. Thank you!
 - The barriers Slavens built cost \$4.50 on average. This is incredible because they cost \$70 each online!
 - Thanks to PTA and FOSS for making sure the school has what it needs!
- VIII. Upcoming Parent Speakers (Meghan & Katie)
- Oct. 21: The speaker is Dr. Hoerr, whose specialty is social and emotional learning. His topics align well with Leader in Me. His talk will be geared towards parents and COVID. No need to register for the event. Dr. Hoerr will record his talk and Meghan will send it out.
 - November speaker is on Social Media Wellness. Anna will gear her talk towards this time of COVID and kids being on screens so much. Parents need to register for this event. Anna will record the talk and Meghan will send it out after.

- Details for all the speakers can be found on the Slavens website

IX. Auction

- We still need an auction chair or co-chairs. Chairing the auction this year could be a bit easier than usual if we do something like Rodeo 2.0, similar to last year so that we don't need to reinvent the wheel.
- Alternatively, we could have a committee chair an event that is different from the usual auction event. One example of an idea is a drive-in movie with caterers.
- If anyone is interested, please reach out to Katie
- We added a Google Form to the Slavens website where parents can say what they are interested in helping with at school so that we can help people find ways to get involved.

*Notes taken by Tracy Kozak