

Slavens School PTA Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2020

The PTA meeting was called to order on Tuesday, November 17, 2020, from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm via Zoom. In attendance were Katie Ozimek, Meghan Brown, James Urbonas, Tracy Kozak, Kurt Siebold, Amanda Fedje, Maria Sadkhi, Stephanie Minior, Kathleen Lukkes, Melissa Hatchett, Adam Fendrich, Oz Spies, Brita Destefano, Heather Fortna, Jesse Feldman, Meredith Jones, Diane Young, Liz Doris, Robin Haller, Stacey Decker, Miranda Cook, Philip Accas, Nathan F., Todd, Tammy, Kate

- I. Approval of October Minutes/Notes (Katie Ozimek/Meghan Brown)
 - **Approved**
- II. Principal's Report (Kurt Siebold)
 - Susana Cordova announced last Friday that she is leaving Colorado after winter break to take a job in Dallas. There will be an interim Superintendent for the remainder of school year and someone new going forward.
 - DPS announced that all K-12 grades and programs will switch to remote learning, beginning on Monday, Nov. 30 through the winter break
 - Barb Smith wanted to express how much the teachers appreciate all the support from PTA and FOSS for the cameras, amplifier systems, bigger screens and dividers. All of these have made a huge difference for the teachers.
- III. Treasurer's Report (James Urbonas)
 - Point of clarification: the Golf Fundraiser is very successful, bringing in \$8,000 - \$9,000 per year net of costs. This is hard to depict on the budget because some money for the golf outing is raised at the auction towards the end of the school year and the budget ends in June.
 - School supplies sale is a great program and has brought in a lot of money
 - Sponsorship and general donations have been strong this year and it is great to see
 - FOSS added \$300 to the teacher support funds on top of the amount PTA already gives - bravo to FOSS for augmenting these funds
- IV. EVEReve & Holiday Greens sales update (Jennifer Urbonas)
 - EVEReve: Huge thank you to Veronica Elliott for setting up this event which raised \$651 for Slavens
 - Sherwood Forest Farms: we have had great participation for this fundraiser, including 100 families and raised a little over \$2,000
- V. Celebration of Cultures Dinner recap (Maria Sadkhi)
 - Maria hosted the first Celebration of Cultures dinner where her family taught around 25 other families how to make Moroccan cuisine. The event was very well received and if anyone is interested in hosting the next dinner (perhaps in January), please let Maria know and she can help facilitate and get the word out.
- VI. Bike Lane Safety (Cindy Ambs)

- It is the city's role to educate communities on how to use the bike lanes they impose on communities. Cindy works for Bicycle Colorado and the City of Denver reached out because they are interested in piloting an education program around how to use the bike lanes. The City asked if Slavens would be interested in having an educational webinar around the bike lanes.
 - They are open to whatever platform we want and it would be geared towards communities and kids.
 - Looking into doing a virtual assembly on Dec. 4, which is an early release day
- VII. Parent Speaker Update (Meghan Brown)
- The speakers we have had so far have been very informative and relevant. Around 25-30 people have attended each event.
 - We would love Slavens staff to attend
 - The events are short, typically around 30-45 minutes
 - We do not have a speaker scheduled for December. The next speaker will be in January or February and we have some great folks lined up.
 - Dr. Thomas Hoerr spoke in October and he was amazing and enlightening. He spoke about empathy and understanding others' perspectives and how to incorporate into these ideas into schools and teaching children.
 - Meghan welcomes feedback on the speaker series from anyone – please email SlavensPTA@gmail.com to discuss specific topics of interest or other feedback.
 - The speakers we have had so far were recorded and the links were sent out in the Flyer app
 - We are brainstorming ideas on how to promote these more effectively, so that more people attend.
- VIII. Auction
- We still do not have an auction chair and might have to cancel it this year
 - We do have an acquisitions person (Sarah Tierney), which is the hardest part so if anyone has ideas or wants to be part of a committee that would put together some sort of event, we would love to get some volunteers
 - The event could be different this year. Some ideas include an online wine tasting and food pairing or a drive-in movie
 - If anyone wants to be involved, please let Katie know
 - Amanda Fedje: the auction raised \$180,000 for Slavens last year and it would hurt to miss out on that this year
 - James Urbonas: Jen is happy to talk to anyone about what chairing entails. If we do the event online again, there is a boilerplate for what to do. Also, having a co-chair is a good way to share the load.

*Notes taken by Tracy Kozak