

Slavens School PTA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday April 16, 2019

The monthly PTA meeting was called to order on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 from 5:30 pm-6:25 pm in the library at Slavens School. In attendance were: Colleen Domer, Stephanie Minior, Jessa Decker-Smith, Kurt Siebold, Katie Ozimek, Tracy Kozak, Heather Witsoe, Debbie Rinehart, Tara Cavanaugh, Brooke B., Laura Edwards, Chriss Bond, Katie Swats, Megan Perkins, Angie Hendricks, Traci Williams, John Ordelheide, Chris Edwards, Cheryl Badger, Ronit Hicks, Meredith Jones, James Urbonas, Robin Berg, Melissa Hatchett, Meghan Brown, Lisa Saccomanno, Marko Wilson and Alaina Neale.

Approval of March Minutes

John Ordelheide/Marko Wilson

January and February minutes were approved.

Principal's Report

Kurt Siebold

No positions are being vacated for next year!

There has been an increased presence of police before and after school due to traffic concerns. Slavens is having ongoing conversations with neighbors impacted by traffic issues. There is ongoing concern about people parking in the no parking/drop off area on Dallas Way. There are efforts to address that issue.

Treasurer's Report

Colleen Domer

Current Balances: **Savings:** \$192,661.58 **Checking/Operating:** \$269,465.10 **8th grade trip:** \$70,245.21
Colleen summarized the income and expenses for the year to date as reflected on the budget through March.

Katie Swats submitted an invoice from Subway to cover the expense of food for the Middle School end of year picnic at Dinosaur Park to be held on May 30th.

Committee Chairs Notice

Katie Ozimek/Meghan Brown

The Vice Presidents would like to have a meeting with all the PTA committee chairs to review procedures and keep the lines of communication open. Meghan has compiled a document for all committee chairs with relevant information for the functioning of the PTA and committees. They can meet as a group or individually with committee chairs to answer any questions and prepare for the 2019-2020 school year.

School Photos

Jessa Decker-Smith

This has been Jessa's first year coordinating school pictures and she asked for feedback from parents. Fall photos were taken inside this year due to problems with bright light/glare in the past; however, the gym was not an ideal location for pictures. The group of students tend to be loud during photos. Other spaces were discussed as possible picture-taking options. Jessa discussed the pros/cons of continuing with VanGogh pictures versus using LifeTouch. She would like to continue with VanGogh for at least one more year and then consider a change after that. Cheryl Badger expressed a concern that whoever

takes the pictures, it is important to get the photo library cards ASAP to the beginning of the year as they are used for library book check out. Photos will be taken over one day in the fall with an additional re-take day and one day in the Spring (primarily for class photos). Individual photos are also offered in the spring but only about 10% of parents purchase individual photos at that time.

Green Team/Recycling/Composting

Robin Berg

Robin updated the PTA on the ongoing action of the Green Team. Her update was as follows:

*She would like to purchase a few more recycling bins. The bins are available at Sam's Club with free shipping. If there is a parent with a Sam's Club membership, please let Robin know ASAP.

*DPS does not have the funds to protect against Emerald Ash Borer. Instead they are trying to plant additional trees throughout the district to diversify the canopy in anticipation of potentially losing those trees. Slavens has about 30 Emerald Ash trees. It would cost about \$2700 to vaccinate the trees (every two years). James Urbonas discussed the pros to vaccinate as it would be more cost effective than having to potentially replace the trees. Meghan Brown will provide Robin with a potential referral to get a lower bid on the vaccination.

*A Crayola Colorcycle Program (a way to recycle any and all types of plastic markers) will be launching on Monday 4/22/19. A bin will be set up in the hallway. This is a free program.

*DU Sustainability students will be holding a Waste Audit on Friday 4/19/19 from 11:00 to 1:15pm outside the cafeteria. They will also be making a video of the event.

*Earth Day will be celebrated on Monday 4/22/19. There will be an assembly by 8th grader Catherine May and CAT Recess Roundups will do a quick campus cleanup.

*Eagle Scout candidate Del Bolinski will be planting a few trees on the hill of the new playground, spread mulch in the dirt area and redo the 1st grade stone group circle on May 4th.

*There are currently over 200 Green Team Heroes identified that have helped with the Green Team this year so far!

*If you have any ideas or would like to volunteer contact Robin Berg at 303-868-4709

robin@SoulMoxie.net

Internet Awesome

Cheryl Badger/Meghan Brown

Slavens received a Google grant to host an Internet Awesome event. Slavens was one of 200 schools nationwide to receive this opportunity. The event has been postponed because Google has not provided the materials to do the presentation yet. The National PTA dictates that the presentation must be held by May 31st. Cheryl and Meghan are hoping to push the date to September; Meghan has appealed the date and is waiting to hear back. If the postponement is not approved, the presentation will be held on May 1st. It is recommended for children aged 9+, dinner will be served and tech door prizes will be given. The content is excellent and a district 3 police officer will attend.

Continuation

Chriss Bond/Ronit Hicks

Chriss and Ronit presented a budget for the 2019 8th grade Continuation. Revenue is raised for continuation via profits from the carnival and ticket sales (\$25 per family member that attends). The carnival is run by 8th grade students and is held solely for the purpose to help fund continuation. The current estimated difference between the revenue raised and cost of continuation is \$276.09. The cost of continuation is approximately \$16,824 and the revenue, with an estimate of 350 ticket sales, is \$16,547.91. Teachers and 8th grade students attend continuation for free. The continuation celebration

is a very meaningful experience for Slavens students and families as they transition from their time at Slavens. Chriss and Ronit described the ceremony and process of the event.

Melissa Hatchett discussed the Thank, Not Prank day following continuation. This has been successful in the last several years to eliminate pranks perpetrated by graduating 8th graders. Ms. Hatchett expressed some concern for the possibility of pranks occurring this year. More information will be sent to parents to discourage their students from participating in a prank. Police presence and parent support has been effective in reducing prank incidents in the past.

Dining Night Out

Stephanie Minior

Dining Out nights have currently raised \$1600. The goal for the school year is to raise \$2000. There will be two more dining out nights this year. The next Dining Out will be Thursday 4/18 at Illegal Pete's on S. Broadway. Illegal Pete's will donate 25% of all sales. The last dining out will be at ChicFila on Colorado and Yale on 5/13. They will donate 20% to Slavens purchases from 4:00-7:00pm, including the drive through.

PTA Nominations

John Ordelheide

The following nominations for PTA positions for the 2019-2020 school year were made and unanimously approved: Tracy Kozak for secretary, James Urbonas for treasurer and Erin Martin for fundraising chair. THANK YOU for volunteering!

Current Needs/Auction

John Ordelheide

The following positions are still open for the 2019-2020 school year: Auction Chair(s) and Vice President(s).

Someone to organize the King Soopers card fundraiser is needed. As King Soopers has recently changed their fundraising format, this position requires less time commitment and could be fulfilled by a spokesperson. It was suggested that Amanda Gurr, who currently organizes the 8th grade trip King Soopers cards, could take this on.

The auction is coming up, please buy your tickets early and ATTEND the auction. All PTA members are encouraged to support the auction through their attendance.

Addendum

Due to a credible threat identified by the Colorado FBI, messages regarding a school lock out were sent to parents on Tuesday afternoon. All DPS and area school districts were closed on Wednesday 04/17/19 for safety concerns. The concern was resolved by law enforcement on 4/17/19 and schools were opened again on 04/18/19. Upon the return to school on 04/18, Kurt relayed to the school community, "Our teachers reassured your children that they are safe here in school and yet didn't go into a lot of detail about the recent events....Also, our school psychologist, Hana Vujeva, is available if you feel your child needs someone to talk to."

Notes taken by Alaina Neale