

Slavens School PTA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday January 15, 2019

The monthly PTA meeting was called to order on January 15, 2019 from 5:30 pm-6:38 pm at the Slavens Library. In attendance were: Laura Edwards, Stephanie Slaybaugh, Lisa Gilbert, Heather Witsoe, Lisa Yemma, Corie Good, Angie Hendricks, Timothea Biermann, Colleen Domer, Judy Leuteneker, Marco Wilson, Katie Ozimek, Meghan Brown, Stephanie Minior, Randy Moyer, John Ordelleide, Amy Carrington, Chris Edwards, Tracy Renner and Alaina Neale.

Approval of December Minutes/Notes

John Ordelleide/Marko Wilson

December notes were approved

Principal's Report

Timothea Biermann

Neither Kurt nor Melissa were able to attend the meeting. Timi reported in their place. There was a Safe to Tell report this morning which resulted in safety officers reporting to the school. It was determined that a lock down was not warranted. The incident did not involve any current Slavens students.

Treasurer's Report

Colleen Domer

Current Balances: Savings: \$192,472.13 Checking: \$268,182.56 8th grade/CIMI: \$63,001.27
Colleen summarized the income and expenses for the month of December as reflected on the budget. Colleen is currently working toward getting the taxes filed as some deadlines are at the end of January.

DCTA/DPS Negotiations

Lisa Yemma

Lisa discussed the ongoing contract negotiations between the teachers' DCTA union and DPS. She reported that negotiations have been going on for over a year, but the teachers' contract officially expires midnight on Friday and little progress has been made as of today. If an agreement is not met by Friday at midnight, the union will hold a vote on Saturday to ratify the contract or to strike. The DCTA wants DPS to be competitive with surrounding districts' teacher compensation. DCTA is looking to build the teacher base salary and have some predictability of their income from year to year. DCTA has proposed a salary schedule which is available to see online. DCTA wants transparency in the pay structure. DPS has agreed to some requests but claims to not have enough funds to meet all of DCTA requests. Lisa reported the funds exist but are mismanaged by the district. She reported that DPS is very top heavy financially. \$46 million goes to central office staff who have no student contact per year. If a contract is approved, DCTA expects that adjustments to the improved base salary would take place as of the 2019-2020 school year. If an agreement is not reached and a strike is voted for. The strike would tentatively start Jan 28th. If the state intervenes, they could ask for a 180 day bargaining period and strikers could be fired. If there is a legally voted strike, teachers cannot be fired. DPS teachers are feeling devalued and distressed. Union membership is around 70% in the district. Teachers that are not part of the union are still encouraged to strike if necessary. Parents can write letters and emails of support and send to Susanna Cordova (DPS superintendent), Jared Polis (governor) and Henry Roman (DCTA president). Cafeteria, custodial, administrative assistants and paras do not belong to the DCTA and will report to work and get paid. The strike would last as long as it takes to reach an agreement.

For more information, Lisa recommended going to Denverclassroomteachers.org and the DPS website. Bargaining will continue this Thursday and Friday (01/17/19 and 01/18/19).

Parents in the PTA discussed drafting a resolution to support the DCTA in their negotiations. There was general support for this resolution among the parents present at the PTA meeting. This resolution of support will be shared with DCTA and DPS.

Auction Update, Timeline & Current Needs

Judy Leuteneker

Judy passed out an informational flyer on this year's PTA auction. Auction planning is well underway, but they need volunteers and support. There are numerous committees that volunteers can join to help support the auction with varying time commitments. The auction will be on April 27th and the theme is Shoot for The Stars. Tickets will go on sale March 1st. Early purchase of tickets is encouraged as it helps with the planning of the event. PTA members are encouraged to buy tickets early as well as spread the word about buying tickets early to the Slavens community. PTA members and parents are also encouraged to donate two items each to the auction either by donating an item themselves or soliciting an item from the community. The auction is the PTA's biggest fundraising event and raises money to support our teachers and students directly. Any inquiries can be directed to Judy Leuteneker and Randy Moyer at Auction@slavens.org

Current Needs, Edukit

John Ordelheide/Marko Wilson

The PTA had a follow up discussion regarding Edukit. A survey was sent to the teachers to gain their opinion whether to keep Edukit or have parents provide supplies on their own. The survey resulted in split results. The status of Edukit will continue to be discussed at next month's meeting.

Timi has been cleaning out the basement and has cleaned out the PTA closet. There are items from previous PTA events that someone might be interested in.

Notes taken by Alaina Neale