

Slavens School PTA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday November 13, 2018

The monthly PTA meeting was called to order on November 13, 2018 from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm at the Slavens Library. In attendance were: Chris Edwards, Meghan Brown, Katie Ozimek, Angie Hendricks, Robin Berg, James Urbonas, Todd Domer, Colleen Domer, Philip Accas, Tracy Renner, Marko Wilson, Kurt Siebold and Alaina Neale.

Approval of October Minutes/Notes

John Ordelheide/Marko Wilson

October notes were approved

Principal's Report

Kurt Siebold

Construction is moving along and wrapping up. Inspections will happen early Friday am. Kurt has planned a ribbon cutting ceremony with the 1st grade classrooms and one 2nd grade classroom that have been most affected by the construction on Friday (after Grandparents Day and before lunch).

Volunteers will help to move into the new space Friday afternoon after early release. The carpet in five rooms has not yet be installed so volunteers will have to work around this. Furniture will arrive and be installed on Monday 11/19/18. Kurt has requested that DPS pay teachers for four hours of work so they can set up their classrooms over Thanksgiving break so classes will resume without disruption when students return on November 26th.

Kurt and Meghan Brown continue to meet with district planners regarding the playground. DPS will cover the cost of renovating the playground. They are requiring a curb to be installed and engineered wood fiber chips. Kurt has requested the work be completed as soon as possible. Timing will depend on how quickly permits can be approved and possible funding issues. Ideally the playground would be completed prior to the students return from Winter Break on 01/07/19.

PTA followed up on discussion about helping cover the cost of carpeting one of the new classrooms. Kurt reported the bid for the work and carpeting was approximately \$4937. A motion was made to approve this expense. The PTA voted and approved the motion.

The PTA discussed upcoming contract negotiations between teachers and the DPS Board. Current teacher contracts expire on 01/18/19. Teachers are working toward changing the teacher compensation system to increase teacher pay. The DCTA (teachers union) proposal was emailed to all parents by a concerned parent and middle school teacher. If an agreed contract cannot be reached by the DPS Board and the DCTA, it is possible the teachers may hold a strike after 01/18/19.

Kurt provided an update on the well-being of Steven Smith (Slavens technology professional). He is currently in rehab and has procured funding to help with some medical expenses. Kurt will be visiting him soon, but reports Steven is in good spirits. It is possible he may return to Slavens this school year. The PTA extends well-wishes to Steven during this time.

Treasurer's Report

Colleen Domer

Current Balances: Savings: \$192,343.83 Checking: \$270,040.93 8th grade/CIMI: \$89,296.74
Colleen reported on income and expenses that have been received this month. Income has included: \$1500 from enrichment, \$2500 from CIMI King Soopers cards, \$1900 from 8th grade carnival, \$920 from the middle school activity fee and income from the Mixed Bags fundraiser. Expenses have been CIMI trip at \$28,801.30, teachers' reimbursement for chaperoning CIMI, air conditioning units at \$3775 and teacher support reimbursement at \$1030.

Mixed Bags Fundraiser

Tracy Renner

The Mixed Bags catalog sale has concluded, and the profit was approximately \$9500. Online sales can still be submitted through 12/31/18. Online sales through 12/07/18 will arrive in time for Christmas. 40% of online sales will go back to Slavens. Tracy reported that she feels the fundraiser was successful as she has received positive feedback from parent that they liked the products. The profit was more than when Mixed Bags was previously used but less than the GAO catalog sale from last year. The PTA discussed ways to possibly increase participation next year such as providing an informational insert in the catalog and/or offering a sales incentive at the outset of the promotion. GAO is interested in resuming working with Slavens next year. Tracy will revisit which catalog company to use during the 19-20 school year.

Green Team/Recycling/Composting

Robin Berg

Robin updated the PTA on the Green Team activities. She shared the winning designs for a Green Team logo. She would like to make these into vinyl stickers which could be given to students as incentives. Robin discussed the need for more volunteers to assist with moving recycling/compost bins. Some trees have been trimmed and deep root watered. Robin has met with all 6th graders and plans to meet with all 7th and 8th graders soon to discuss the Green Team and getting community service time. Robin continues to meet with the DPS Sustainability Analyst and students at DU to discuss involvement with Slavens. The PTA discussed the need to vaccinate 23-25 ash trees from the Emerald Ash Borer which arborists project will impact Denver and potentially kill the trees. The cost of a deep root insecticide for all 23-25 trees would be approximately \$2200 every two years. The trees would need to be treated in the Spring 2019. Vaccinating the trees would cost less than removing and replacing the trees should they get infected and die.

PTA Mission Statement

Angie Hendricks

We do not currently have a PTA mission statement and have not in recent years. Angie shared the mission statement for Slavens School and Colorado PTA. Angie discussed the purpose and import of having a mission statement as it should drive all the decision-making made by the organization. A mission statement helps with accountability, values and direction. The PTA discussed various ways of starting the process of creating a mission statement. Cheryl Badger is currently the Leader In Me liaison and will be hosting an upcoming family mission statement event. She may be of assistance. Angie, Meghan Brown and Katie Ozimek agreed to meet and work to create a mission statement for the PTA before the end of the 2018-2019 school year.

Current Needs

John Ordelheide/Marko Wilson

The Edukit Coordinator position remains vacant and needs to be filled. The responsibilities for this position start in January and the position requires variable time commitment. Contact Katie Ozimek for details.

Randy Moyer and Judy Leuteneker were unable to attend the meeting but wanted to encourage parents to attend a Friendraiser event for the auction. The purpose of the Friendraiser is to educate people on the auction and recruit potential volunteers. The Friendraiser event will be on Tuesday night, 12/04/18 7:00pm at Snarfs. Randy and Judy would love everyone from PTA to attend and help bring additional volunteers too! They need as much help as they can get.

Welcome to Chris Edwards who has agreed to chair the Fundraising Oversight Committee.

Meghan Brown will send the agenda for future PTA meetings to all members via Member Planet prior to the meeting so members will be informed of the topics of discussion.

The next PTA meeting will be on Tuesday 12/11/18 at 5:30pm in the Slavens library. There were potential conflicts on the evening of the 3rd Tuesday in December. Please plan accordingly.

Notes taken by Alaina Neale