

May 13, 2020

Gower PTO Meeting
Virtual via Zoom
Start of Meeting: 5:36 pm

In attendance: Deana Miron, Dina Jason, Caroline Vroustouris, Mary Szabo, Elizabeth Shaker, Gina Rodewald, Tracy Murphy, Katie Smith, Jen Kelly

5:36 pm: Meeting called to order by Dina Jason

Dina Jason: This is my last meeting as PTO Board Co-President, and Mary Szabo's as well. We will miss all of you!

Welcome to our new PTO Board Members, Jen Kelly (Vice-President) and Katie Smith (Treasurer).

Jen Kelly: I am so excited to be a part of the PTO this year! I am a former elementary school teacher and now stay-at-home Mom. I have three kids.

Katie Smith: I am a second-generation Gower graduate and my two kids are third-generation Gower students. It is important for me to give back to the Gower community, and I am not letting Mary go without learning everything she knows! I live right behind Gower West.

Dina Jason: Thank you, ladies, we are so glad to have you here as new members.

Tracy Murphy: 8th grade graduation items were delivered today. Two Gower Middle teachers did the deliveries. Everything went well. Several parents suggested that teachers make the deliveries and that was what we had planned all along, so it was a nice moment for the students and teachers.

On Monday, May 18, we will have the 8th grade slideshow to celebrate the graduating 8th graders. This will take place with the pizza event.

Dina Jason: There will be a \$322 deposit to Chuck's.

Elizabeth Shaker: Spirit Wear sale went very well. \$200 is the estimate for how much we will net from the sale. Teachers who ordered t-shirts were either refunded or not charged. The order has been submitted. I want to do all of the deliveries directly to their homes.

Mary Szabo: We have to move the remaining funds from PayPal to the bank account.

Deana Miron: I will move remaining funds from the sale from PayPal to the bank account today. *Completed after the meeting adjourned: Refunded \$6.50 to four staff members for t-shirt orders. Transferred \$665 to PTO checking account. There were unlabeled payments \$15, \$27 (both on 4/24) and \$15 (on 4/22) which were not found on the Google order form.

Donations for Teacher Appreciation totaled \$1,150. After deducting all transaction fees, there is a remaining balance of \$1103.68. This amount will be transferred to the PTO bank account tomorrow after confirming that no other refunds need to be made.

Thank you emails will be sent out to donors.

Dina Jason: School supply orders from EPI are going on. Order deadline is June 14.

Elizabeth Shaker: Should people continue to order school supplies even though we do not know when we will be going back to physical school?

Dina Jason: Good question, and yes, we should. PTO is able to deliver the boxes directly to students' homes, if we are not able to attend school physically at the current scheduled date and time. This will help to ensure that students have all of the supplies they need, should they have to start with e-learning at the start of the new school year.

Gina Rodewald: We have been keeping very busy and offering many different ways to keep students engaged. Staff members are doing a great job, and I am getting a lot of parent suggestions.

Katie Smith: Thank you to Gower for how well you are doing compared to the many schools around the country using e-learning, or offering nothing at all. I know many people who have said that Gower's e-learning is much better than what they are experiencing, and that is due to the hard work of the staff at Gower.

Gina Rodewald: Thank you, Katie:

Elizabeth Shaker: I really liked the email you wrote, Gina. (Email update from Gower West, May 8, 2020)

Caroline Vroustouris: Thank you for offering so many different times of day to engage students. Offering the Facebook Live in the evening, and various events during the morning and afternoon, works well with different students' and parents' schedules.

Mary Szabo: Treasurer's report: will send a full report by email.

Dina Jason: A meeting will be scheduled in June for PTO to go over Wishlists for the teachers.

Deana Miron: I will schedule that and try to schedule in-person, if we can!

Dina Jason: I can't believe this is our last meeting, Mary!

Mary Szabo: We are moving on to D86 Boosters with all of the knowledge of Gower PTO!

Dina Jason: Thank you all!

Everyone: Thank you, Dina and Mary!

Meeting adjourned: 6:12 pm

