

SMS PTSO MINUTES, JANUARY 11, 2017

Attendance

Gina Holbrook, Lisa Russo, Melissa Tomasso, Liz Lukowsky, Denise Cinelli, Nancy Sit, Edita Beasain, Anna Lazzara, Aleks Holbrook, Alex Liebel, Kate Hefner, Amber Baylis, Lona Voight, Candice McLead, Michael Russo, Tracy Bruzendive, Joanne Galvin and Janel Dorn and Leorah Solomon.

9:20 – Meeting was called to order. Gina opened with announcing that Denise Cinelli will be the 2016/2017 PTSO Secretary for the remainder of the year.

Many thanks were extended to all who helped make the Secret Santa project in December a smashing success!

Administration

Mrs. Dorn (Principal), Ms. Loos (AP) and Mrs. Hefner (AP)

Principal Dorn spoke of the Donuts with Dorn she hosts for the Student Council to discuss ideas, go over items of concern and have the opportunity to speak with her.

The upcoming dance on Feb. 10th was discussed. It will be a school wide event with an 80's theme.

Five Guys fundraiser was a success raising over \$400!

Two staff members from Food and Nutrition were introduced by Principal Dorn, Tracy Bruzendive and Joanne Galvin. They spoke later in the meeting after all of the students arrived.

Principal Dorn announced that SMS registered the 1300th student.

A flyer, Sarasota Middle Highlights, was handed out that had some pictures of Janel Dorn and Michelle Burrell with the 1300th student.

The Highlights flyer also mentioned a thank you for the \$85 approval for an Instructional Enhancement Allotment. Along with mentioning a successful Parent Info Night that was held for both ATA and PGA families of incoming 6th grade families for next school year. Upcoming events were listed as well such as: Practice Writing Simulation, ATA/PGA School Tours, STEM Summit, All State Band and All State Chorus.

The Parent Info Night was held early, December 15th, due to some feedback of parents not being aware of deadlines for gifted qualification, etc. Parents who attended SMS tours in the past had positive comments, they felt welcomed, liked hearing the test scores and the experience made a big difference in their school choice decision.

ATA/PGA combined tours are being held. One scheduled in January, another to follow on Feb. 14th and a third on March 29th. A beautiful, comprehensive folder was put together and is handed out to families at the tour.

Mrs. Dorn addressed she and her staff are working hard to manage the challenges that come along with the growing student body. Redistricting could be possible in the future and/or the possibility of portables on campus as numbers increase.

Special Guests from Food and Nutrition

Salad bar/vending machine was discussed about the needs, wants, strict regulations that have to be met and past success at other schools.

Tracy Bruzendive spoke about the challenges of a salad bar and the minimum number of salads (at least 50 per day) that would need to be served to make it cost effective. Volunteers would also be needed at every lunch as it would not be a self-serve set up. Ms. Bruzendive said that the salad bars in the past at other schools start off strong, but tend to taper off.

Salads are available in the cafe, however, on the average only 8-10 are sold on a daily basis. If students would like to personalize a "SMS Salad" to have available they are certainly welcome to submit their request to the cafe.

Principal Dorn asked Ms. Bruzendive to speak of the national recognition on the farm to table program. Ms. Bruzendive shared the many avenues that are taken to buy locally.

It was also mentioned that All Faiths Food Bank delivers crates to provide snacks for students in need.

Table umbrellas or canopies for the students was also brought up for those who choose to eat outside. Principal Dorn will consult with facilities on the logistics involved if they were to be purchased.

Students

Tickets sales to start on February 6th in the cafe at lunches for the 80's Bash. Dance will be held on February 10th in the cafeteria for all grade levels.

Volunteers will be needed for sales to receive the money and parent permission slip. All student names will go on a spreadsheet and wristbands will be distributed on Friday morning to first period teachers. 2-3 volunteers are needed for decorating. Mr. Stutlz will be the D.J.

Looking to have a photo booth. Principal Dorn will contact someone she knows and find out the cost involved.

It was suggested to have a SMS Panther mascot at the athletic events to show our school spirit.

Presidents Report

Yearbooks will be on sale at the PTSO table along with sweatshirts, Tervis tumblers, etc. at the SMS Showcase on the evening of January 26th.

Committee Reports

Box Tops donations total is \$241.70 for this drive, deadline is February 15th. As of the meeting, 8th grade was leading in donations.

Carrabba's is donating all of the food for the History Fair dinner which will include chicken, pasta, Caesar salad and a roll. There will be a lot of performances throughout the evening as well.

Staff Appreciation luncheon on May 4th will be a Shabby Chic/Country theme. First Watch will cater and \$25 gift cards to various restaurants will be given to staff.

Melissa Tomasso gave an update on the 8th grade dance. It will be held this year on Friday, May 19th at The Devon in the Alexandria room.

Lisa Russo gave an update on the Panther Prowl 5K. Brooks Tracey is working on a logo that will be a beach theme to include the SMS Panther. It is tentatively scheduled for April 8th, however that date may change if there is a conflict with another area run that day. A timing chip, t-shirts and medals will be given to registering participants.

Lisa Russo also mentioned the Sarasota County School Calendar for 2017/2018 was approved with an earlier start date of August 14th.

Next PTSO meeting is March 8, 2017 at 9:15 a.m. in Room 110.