

Gower PTO Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2019

Review of Events:

- Holiday Bazaar- Cassie Swieton
 - Made over \$700
 - Cash registers weren't working so used phone and apps
 - Possibly start next year after school- say 3:30-7pm and the next morning during the pancake breakfast
 - Prices were not on the products so that would be helpful to add next year
 - Less hours needed for set up
 - Maybe add \$1 or less items right up by checkout so that kids can't afford what they wanted, they can choose something else
- Pizza Lunch at West- Brooke
 - Thursday before school let out
 - Maybe more delegation of jobs for volunteers in the future
- Manna Gift Cards
 - Cards came later than originally planned due to storm out east
 - Next year, do it earlier in season
 - Collapse the order form & list by alphabetical order

PTO received an e-mail from a parent requesting that the PTO send out a communication via our e-blast in regards to the upcoming referendum. The communication would be gathering political support for the referendum. The PTO consulted our by-laws, section 2, item b.: "This organization shall not directly or indirectly participate or intervene in any political campaign." As a result, the PTO may provide information that a referendum group has formed and if they would like more information, they can contact said parent. If the PTO receives a request from another group, they will provide contact information and that is all. The PTO will discuss this topic further. The PTO agrees that the referendum affects our school community but does not take a political stand on the referendum and will not promote one side of the issue over the other.

Addendum: The PTO Board has further discussed the above topic. Upon further review of our bylaws, we have determined that it would be inappropriate to provide any partisan information via the PTO e-blast.

Upcoming Events:

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- Family Dance 2/1- Cassie Swieton
 - Ice cream bar
 - DJ
 - Photo booth

- Have crafts left from last year
- Has a committee formed, will need volunteers.
- New budget- \$800 approved by board
- Theme this year is Sweetheart Dance
- Valentine's Day Treats at West- Brooke
 - Lunchroom staff will order treats
 - We will have parent volunteers chosen from lottery
- Committees for Taste of Gower and Trivia Night- Brooke
 - Next e-blast committees are forming for Trivia Night, Taste of Gower, and Fun Fair and we need to
- Wrestling Meet-2/16 Brooke
 - 8-4pm in cafeteria
 - Breakfast & lunch provided by PTO and funds raised will go to the PTO
 - Ask Great American Bagel about pricing
 - Coffee maker from Cassie Swieton
- Fun Fair- anything we need to prepare for now?
 - March 8th
 - Kids want the meltdown and little kids have gotten hurt
 - Several kids can fit on the meltdown at a time which is helpful
 - Bouncy house for little ones is a big hit
 - Check into getting 2 mechanical bulls
- Manna Gift Card 2nd round? If so, when?
 - Usually do a second round in the spring
 - Teachers appreciate having a spring order available
- EPI
 - Teachers preparing lists now

Treasurer's Report:

- Holiday Bazaar
- Zazzo's Pizza at West
- Manna-
- Budget for Family Dance- \$800 approved

Potential Family Event

- Rent out a pool and charge a certain amount
- Do it over the winter
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School Representative's Report

Mrs. Borek-

Teachers are thankful for the events that have been held.

Book Club, Reading, Art, 2nd Grade book club, Knitting, Bucket Drum, Ukelele, Writing Club Teachers thankful for the events that have been held

Mrs. Lund-

Very thankful for all the support they have been given.

Follet Challenge- Several, large prizes. People can vote once per day, per e-mail address.

Get it in the e-blasts.

Mrs. Rodewald- An older couple came in to Gower West prior to winter break and wanted to make a donation. She suggested the PTO Needy Family Fund. The man wrote a check for \$300, gave it to the school, wished his wife a Merry Christmas, and they embraced.

Mrs. Murphy- Club sports are going. 8th grade has always done a picnic at the end of the year so this year they are doing the Odyssey Lunch Cruise at Navy Pier.