

MINUTES

HSA PTA Meeting

November 1, 2023, 8:45 am | Meeting called to order by PTA President Lydia Vincenty

CALL TO ORDER

Attendees: Lydia Vincenty, Emily Casey, Erica Ashlock, Jen Donnelly, Kate Cox, Nancy Chin, Natsumi Saito, Nick Bondi, Vanessa Shropshire, Jackie Kelly

OLD BUSINESS

- I. **Walkathon:** With matching, total raised came close to \$44K. Couple of the sponsor messages are too long so need to edit. T shirts – all the teachers submitted forms with sizing so need to compile data. Student who won design content has a cleaner version of the image as well; working to finalize then print.
 - a. Pictures: Have a lot so it might be nice to share. We could add a link to the pictures in the next blast or room parent communications and/or keep a Google doc somewhere for folks to find.
 - b. Lap tracking: Printed cards for kids seemed to work well. Jelly bands still work for the younger grades and Emily has been sending updates to each homeroom to give teachers status on laps and let kids know where they stand.
 - c. Day-of updates: Like the addition of the tent and labeling the tents with numbers and/or colors is helpful. Need to improve after school trash pickup/clean up. Don't cut the bananas and streamline snack options: fruit snacks, pretzels and bagels.
 - d. 8th grade incentives to target low energy? Considered teaming up with their K buddies but Trish wants to keep them on their own. Maybe some kind of matching donation vs field trip to explore.
- II. **Shop for Schools:** Still waiting on totals, but seemed like a good turnout, particularly at bookstores. PTA bought some books off of Ms. Garner's wish list and donated back to school.
- III. **Love, Charlie Giveback:** Going to let us know next week about total.
- IV. **Report Card Pickup Lunch** went well. Cedar Palace food; heard from teachers that they really liked it.
- V. **Halloween Dog Parade and Costume Party:** A lot of fun but not a huge money maker. Total raised currently \$215 with PayPal but maybe more with cash. 21 dogs entered. Popsicles came but it was cold out so only a few sold. Next year could use more visibility about who the contestants are. Lots of pictures for blast or to send to room parents. Sold 9 coffees; 24 donuts; 7 ciders; 6 pup cups.

NEW BUSINESS

- I. **Bulls Outing:** Bulls outing scheduled for April 9th. Like last time, a Google form for interest will go out first and then PTA prebuys tickets to get them all in the same section. There's no school the next day and no showcases that night. Most likely will revisit raffle for the anthem buddies.
- II. **Portillo's Fundraiser:** Portillo's fundraiser at Addison location on Nov 16th to benefit 8th grade. Asking for flyer. Need to market this and Bad Momz events together.
- III. **Bad Momz Comedy Night Out:** 19 tickets sold so far, so have already covered costs. Need more marketing; now that Halloween is over interest should pick up in next couple of weeks.
- IV. **Lou Malnati's Fundraiser:** \$15 coupon for a 9' frozen pizza. 8th grade benefit. Info will go out in blast.
- V. **Plastic Free Lunch Day:** Tentatively scheduled for Wednesday Nov 8. Try to avoid single use plastics when packing lunch that day. Will send info out in blast.
- VI. **Holiday Fair:** Thursday, December 14. Scholastic Book Fair will run in tandem from Dec 11-15 in fitness room. If we have to be inside won't have access to that room so FYI. Would love to go outside again like 2 years ago. Winter wonderland theme. Likely to repeat Student Craft Fair: students get to sell their own homemade goods (no food) for profit. PTA will also sell spirit wear. Should consider a food option; have

done Potbelly's and Tuco y Blondie before. It's nice to have food options available to families; may look into partnership with Einstein. No Metropolis free coffee this year – no one drinks it.

- VII. **Teacher Cookie Boxes:** Likely Monday December 18. Teachers will be asked if they want to opt out or have allergies. Families bake or buy cookies and PTA boxes for all teachers and staff.

OTHER BUSINESS

- I. **Student Council Updates:** Student Council President and VP Fiona and Frankie stopped in to say thank you for Walk-a-thon and check in about Student Council and PTA needs. Student Council is planning a dance for 6-7 middle school (tentatively Dec 1 or 8; waiting on confirmation) and asked for PTA support with food funds. They are also doing another Student Council Cares event where each couple of weeks they have different focus on donations. Coming up in 2 weeks: coat/hat/mitten drive for the homeless and immigrants. Also trying to decide best time to do Candygrams – deciding between St Patrick's or December candy canes. All classrooms have been given suggestion boxes for PTA ideas. PTA mentioned perhaps Student Council could help support our Lost and Found and help return labeled items.
- VI. **Kendra Scott Giveback Possibility:** Kendra Scott mentioned to Lydia they might be interested in a giveback at some point– maybe worth exploring something for JH featuring blue and gold class necklace or bracelet.
- VII. **Giving Tuesday:** We didn't feature HSA donations last year and likely won't again this year.
- VIII. **DC Trip:** PTA sponsoring \$200 per student to help with cost of trip.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting Wednesday December 6th.

Meeting adjourned.