

# MINUTES

## HSA PTA Meeting

January 10, 2024, 8:45 am | Meeting called to order by PTA President Lydia Vincenty

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### CALL TO ORDER

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**Attendees:** Lydia Vincenty, Kristy Patterson, Erica Ashlock, Jen Donnelly, Nancy Chin, Nick Bondi, Jeff Kuhle, Natsumi Saito, Amy Nathan, Mira Loh-Trivedi, Vanessa Shropshire

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### OLD BUSINESS

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- I. **Holiday Fair:** Was amazing! Snow machine was a nice touch; have leftover snow for next year. So much better outside. Ideas for next year: Would be nice to have a movie playing in the background and also to have food onsite. Did Blaze 20% but better to have something there. If anyone knows a food truck that wouldn't require deposit let us know. FYI some JH volunteers didn't show. Overlap with winter concert was also tricky – maybe they can stagger times or have the choir perform outside? Student crafters had some great sales.
- II. **Coffee Sales:** Sold half as much as in previous years; not sure why? Lots of folks just ran out of time.
- III. **Teacher Cookie Boxes:** Admin and teachers sent nice email; handwritten letter from bus driver.

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### NEW BUSINESS

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- I. **Spring Fundraiser:** Stronger Together is the name this year. Save the dates are coming out on Friday in blast and then hard copies in backpacks. March 8th is the event.
  - a. Volunteers: Need Signup Genius for volunteers sooner than later. Need day-of volunteers. Need setup and delivery that day. Could we ask another school to help us out – maybe Jahn? Audobon, Hamilton, Blaine. Dr Kosko reaching out to someone as well.
  - b. Food/Drink: Kristy working on wine. Vodka and whiskey cocktails planned. Parents will not bartend this year; have to use Artifact events bartenders. Dag's not responding for pizza but Lydia may have contact for Chicago's pizza. Trapasado tacos again; we get a huge discount. Hawthorne alum manager at Dom's grocery store said he would do dessert (eg cannoli) and give gift card. Maybe Thai food again too; Erica checking.
  - c. Communication: Need to continuously advertise in the next couple of months; last year it worked well and we had close to 300 people attend. Ask teachers to come – have admin push it more. Trish will send email or two and distribute. Spread the word please! Going to send messaging to room parents to send as well.
  - d. Auctions: Need more donations. Kristy has all the materials needed to solicit so reach out to her if you need help or are unsure about overlap. Also need bigger items for the live auction – vacation houses, concerts, big sporting events. We'll have 2 parking spots and graduation front row and principal for the day. Trip or two. Rolling Stones at Soldier Field maybe.
  - e. Student Art Auction: Student made art for K, 1 and 2 grades. Lemp working with parents. Spread the word because parents don't know it exists. Want to start bidding war.
  - f. Parent- and teacher-hosted events: Be on the lookout for the parent-hosted event link going out soon. Teacher-hosted events go live at the spring fundraiser itself. Kristy needs succession plan.
- II. **Student Raffle:** Kickoff is Feb 8. Kids sell online raffle tickets via RallyUp website; each kid has their own site. Lasts for almost 3 weeks. Traditionally Mr Arnold and Carlton Oquendo spearhead internal kickoff for kids. Will have the usual prizes: incentives for first classroom to hit 500; daily prizes (gift cards, spirit wear); 100% participation treat – snow cones maybe; pizza for highest class and highest grade; cash prizes for adults. Often teachers will have their own incentives (no homework, etc). Historically third grade

wins. Suggestion to make the All About Raffle email clarify how the site works (ideas for distro and/or customization) and add a reminder for where dollars go. Considering an initial goal of 25K and then push to 40K – pj day and movie.

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## OTHER BUSINESS

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- IV. **Lost and Found:** Ms Dominguez and Student Council want all items from last year/first 2 quarters gone by end of January. Jen to take coat pics and feature in blast reminding people to get their stuff.
- V. **Dominos Fundraiser:** Need to talk to Emily. Buy one get one free large pizza card; raised \$1K last year.
- VI. **Bulls Tickets:** April 9 is sold out. Adriana checking to see if we can get more. You can still add your name to the wait list for now.
- VII. **Zero Waste Program:** Launching this week on Wednesday; will touch base with Sarah.
- VIII. **Clarification about where \$ go for each fundraiser:** Ask Trish if there is a better way to define what the money is going toward for the spring fundraiser and the raffle. Dr Kosko mentioned we need to be careful about saying where money will go and then ensuring it does go there, but at the same time folks are more eager to donate if they have something tangible to send to.

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## NEXT MEETING

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Next meeting Wednesday February 7th.

Meeting adjourned.