

# MINUTES

## HSA PTA Meeting

November 10, 2021, 8:45 am | Meeting called to order by PTA President Emily Casey

### OLD BUSINESS

- I. **Walk-a-thon:** Was great – over \$47K. Shirts are at the printer, included 14 or 15 business sponsorships. Erica filled out debrief form for next year. Consensus that we need a different way to count laps: tallies? Counters? Open to ideas for next year.
- II. **Principal Appreciation:** First time doing and it was great huge success! Gave each principal a Starbucks gift card and cash. Easy to coordinate and left donation open ended; good combination of Zelle and Paypal.
- III. **Chicago Fire:** Over 100 people, great night, some swag for kids, group of first graders that did a tailgate. Will definitely do it. Not a fundraiser, strictly for community fun.
- IV. **Shop for Schools:** Need to confirm final amount earned.

### NEW BUSINESS

- I. **Fundraising (Erica):**
  - a. Spring Gala: Save the date for Friday March 25<sup>th</sup> at Architectural Artifacts in Ravenswood. New auctioneer this year who does a lot of CPS schools. Starting to look at forming different committees and need volunteers (eg, food, beverage, entertainment). Alcohol is always a focus so looking for donations as we have no leftovers in our reserves. Need to get count of how much is needed – will ask Ben Hamm. In the past signature cocktails were donated as well. Jen to coordinate with Erica for flyer/communication on parent-/teacher-led events to explain how it works.
  - b. Metropolis: Annual fundraiser that typically ends at holiday fair with coffee distribution of sales. Flyer goes out to families who can purchase different types (there's a holiday blend and a Hurricane blend!) and 40% of sales go back to HSA. Makes great gifts. Waiting for Metropolis to send new flyer; once that comes out we can get it out pretty easy. If we want to preorder to sell that might be a good idea.
  - c. Building Blocks Fundraiser: Toy store has 3 locations, next week doing a shop for schools event from Nov 15-19. Mention you're there for HSA and we get percentage of sales. Flyer going in blast.
- II. **Community (Maria-Paz):**
  - a. Report card pickup teacher lunch: Next Wed Nov 17– no school during that day we provide a lunch for the teachers. Getting lunch catered for them and sending invoice to Sophia. Set up at 2:15.
  - b. Praha holiday shopping event: Nov 18<sup>th</sup> is Praha shopping day. Been doing it for several years, all day shopping event at this cute store at Belmont and Leavitt – ornaments, furniture, etc. 2 owners are fun and serve snacks and cocktails. Shop local but FYI it's a small space. We get 15% back from sales.
  - c. Athleta fashion show: not a Hawthorne event but trying to support local. Should be a fun event but limited space so rvsp required and aim for 5th grade and up. That night they're having food trucks and vendors come in so should be festive. Mira circling back to see about doing give back shopping.
  - d. Ornament making class and Crosby's: Nov 20 local artist and Ms Toomey on a Zoom to lead paint class to make ornaments or gift tags. Each package is a set for 8 ornaments/tags and all materials come in that package for \$25. Also partnered with Crosby's doing a family meal plan with 2 meals to choose from. Pickup between 4:30 and 5:30 at HSA. Looking to get supplies out by 17th to sync with report card pickup ideal. Need to confirm the pickup plan and parking lot location with Crosby's.
  - e. Holiday cookie boxes: Dec 13 the teachers, guards, bus drivers all get boxes. Need donations; we welcome store-bought or homemade. Trish going to do a short survey to gauge teacher interest. Run by Lydia. Need sign up genius. Will put it in blast next week.

- f. **Holiday fair:** This year doing outside event on the turf. Veronica going to decorate and make it look like ChristKindleMart! 5 to 6:30 so we can set up. Need to make sure we have security. Jen working on flyer, Veronica putting together Signup genius.
    - i. Student craft fair: Focal point won't be concert/band this year since those programs are just getting back in gear; instead focusing on student craft fair. Started it 2 year ago and kids sign up for a table and they sell their crafts and you have to buy a ticket to buy a craft. No food sales. When they signup to book a table it goes to a charity (last year was Cystic Fibrosis Foundation). Kid-led great community event. Now more tables and more kids can participate. Start getting kids going with ideas. All grades and voluntary. Limited to 25 probably. Each table costs 10 dollars to signup. If we don't do CFF as charity this year ask Mira for her suggested plan b.
    - ii. Toy grab bag raffle: Will ask people to donate gifts and toy so we can create surprise raffle grab-bags – donate new items found in your home or from Building Blocks give-back; whatever we get we create age-appropriate gift bags.
    - iii. Other activities: Also having Ms. Garner's book fair (inside in fitness room), looking at playing movie on a loop, handing out free hot chocolate and cookies (no major food), coffee sales, Dip and Sip donut kit pick up. Spirit wear will be available. Not trying to recreate fun fest – because this is outdoors limiting time frame. There's a Potbelly's give back that night so folks can grab dinner on the way home. Weather plan in north basement. Think about maybe using JH kids for book fair or tap into them to serve hot chocolate or cookies – could use them to staff. Maybe add back tree indoors with names of people who had paid for PTA membership? We have about 90 paid members.
- III. **Giving Tuesday for Arts Partnership:** Nov 30. Arts Partnership starting back up again but need to reeducate families. Some helpful language on website. Maybe include past themes and language in next blast. Ms Lemp just met with new director of program; teachers all have dates and showcase themes.

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## OTHER BUSINESS

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- I. **Trish Update: Possible Fundraisers:** Emily emailing with Bulls, looking to do Jan 7 date, would cost about 30 dollars. Other ideas include Wolves, Sky, Dominoes gift card promotion. And McDonalds across from Lane Tech looking to partners – could do drive through in the spring. Mira mentioned potential collaboration with Sochi.  
**PTA Wish List/Blast:** Reminder of these communication forms and signups.
- II. **Room Parents:** Trying to squeeze in another toom parent check-in next week or right after Thanksgiving.  
**Winter Parties:** Winter party for younger grades will happen before break. Lead by teachers but will mention to room parents.

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## NEXT MEETING

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Wednesday December 1 at 8:45 am. Decorating school after for anyone interested in sticking around to help.  
Meeting adjourned.