

MINUTES

HSA PTA Meeting

November 9, 2022, 8:45 am | Meeting called to order by PTA President Emily Casey

OLD BUSINESS

- I. **Shop for Schools:** Successful event, thanks to HSA parent Trudy for hosting meet and greet. Final numbers coming soon but this year earned additional dollars Roscoe offers for top 6 schools so we'll get bonus. Stay tuned for amount announced in check ceremony next Tuesday. Did teacher wish list at bookstore for first time – some hiccups but may try again – nice to keep up relationship throughout year.
- II. **Walkathon:** Awesome committee this year. Raised over \$46K. Also used new tracker - 95% accurate had a few training issues but overall seemed to work well. Trackers are also getting extra use from Mr. Birden and cross-country team. 7th, 5th and 2nd grades got extra PE class. Added snack sponsor this year. Got lots of extra snacks and will deliver with shirts once ready. Ordering yellow shirts with winning student shirt design. Added D'Agostino's pizza party this year; we can expand on this next year. Feedback to maybe get private room but tough to track.

NEW BUSINESS

- I. **Report Card Pickup Teacher luncheon:** PTA providing lunch for the staff – some teachers are doing outside the Monday conference window but most will be here that day so ordering Flacos Tacos again. Melissa Richlen volunteered to be onsite that day; Veronica and Mira doing the décor. Volunteers welcome.
- II. **Community:**
 - a. Holiday Fair/Student Craft Fair: Outside on the turf on Dec 14 from 5-7 pm. Lots of volunteers needed for setup since there's a short window between end of school and event start. Need help with popup tents and décor. Talking about games right now but definitely including HSA sweets spots and mystery grab bag raffle. Asking for donations for homemade or storebought treats and toys. Stay tuned for more about a possible musical performance in the auditorium. Book fair will be in the fitness room. Will have table for coffee pickup. Food: PTA will serve hot chocolate and coffee and cookies. HSA parent offered to be recycling liaison to help see if we can add recycling component to fair/offer signage. K parent organizing with Tuco y Blondie to offer a preordered meal kit available for pickup in school parking lot as a takeout option. Kickback to K aide. Student craft fair signup under way. Great event for kids of all ages – jewelry, ornaments, etc. They set their own prices. PTA sells tickets buyers use to pay and then students deliver tickets to PTA treasurer to get earnings.
- III. **Fundraising:**
 - a. Metropolis Coffee: Order now deadline December 3. Great fundraiser – they give 40% of sales back to HSA. Google doc online for order and PTA pay on website. Need to market customized Hurricane blend and holiday blend as gift options.
 - b. Gala: March 10 at Artifact Events. Kickoff event at Lincoln Station for gala exec team occurred this week; this year have committees. Event highlights: Light appetizers and a full bar. The event is free and you can purchase drink tickets. Starts at 6:30 with a cocktail hour. Live auction upstairs with bigger items (concert tickets, trips, parking lot spot), then dancing. Try to get all the food donated. Considering adding family sponsorships in addition to typical business sponsorships for items families may be interested in funding (eg, photo booth, signature cocktail). Signature events where families sponsor their events and buyers pay for ticket to attend are a big hit. PTA really proud that event is free with options at different price points; meant to be inclusive. Event is adult only; considering a themed dress code. Will come up with and advertise fundraising goal and find medium to track and share progress. Also need high-visibility option for people who can't come but want to donate.

OTHER BUSINESS

- I. **Student Council Updates:** Student Council President and VP stopped by with updates. Current focal points include a recycling focus: every Tuesday for the past 2 weeks they collect classroom bins. Going to explore if

they can bring bins with them to the holiday fair to help with recycling there as well. Kicking off shoe drive today and tomorrow. Next month is spirit week and Student Council is also exploring possibility of bringing back a dance (eg, student choice), potentially winter themed. Planning to do candygrams and maybe something around St Patrick's Day.

- II. **PTA IMPACT nomination:** Got a visit from Ms. Love announcing PTA was nominated for their impact to the HSA community. Thanks to all our members.
- III. **HSA Safety Updates:** Concerned K parent asked for follow-up to police presence last week. Trish shared approach to risk assessment (ultimately no threat to children was deemed) and a pledge to always overcommunicate when given the option by CPS/authorities. Group discussed the need to collectively educate HSA community on why school safety measures are critical to follow.
- IV. **Chicago Bulls Outing:** Secured about 250 tickets on Friday March 17th. Sales launch soon.
- V. **Teacher Cookie Boxes:** Monday Dec 19th – signup going out soon.
- VI. **Giving Tuesday:** Typically the Tuesday after Thanksgiving ask for cash donations to support arts partnership. May not do this year; there's no immediate need and want to be respectful of all the asks around the holidays. May replace with reminder of HSA give-backs: teacher cookies, Student Council shoe drive, Amazon
- VII. **Student Raffle:** A quick overview of how the event runs. More to come.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting Wednesday December 7th.

Meeting adjourned.