

MINUTES

HSA PTA Meeting

December 6, 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, Jeff Kuhle, Sarah Farrell, Diana Tate, Maria Rentzelos, Tina Taube

OLD BUSINESS

- I. **Shop for Schools:** Still waiting on totals, but didn't make top 6.
- II. **Report Card Pickup Lunch** went well. Cedar Palace food; heard from teachers that they really liked it.
- III. **Bad Momz/Portillo's Fundraiser:** Bad Momz – very fun event, great spot, great location – put kindergarten over the top for its K aide fund. Group would love to work with Hawthorne again. Portillos – 8th grade fundraiser; haven't said how much we earned yet.
- IV. **Love Charlie Fundraiser:** Raised \$256.
- V. **Walkathon shirts:** Will be here after winter break.

NEW BUSINESS

- I. **Holiday Fair:** Thursday December 14th. So far 12 booths for students. Only 1 has a tent so far; may need more. Could add to the volunteer signup. Right now says 38 degrees as high with no snow or rain so still plan to be outside and will reassess on Monday. If outdoors, will bring snow machine. Volunteer wise need help – Student Council may be providing volunteers. Need to figure out ticket sales too. Checking to see who will be performing at music concert. Will be doing zero waste stations again. Blaze Pizza is doing a fundraiser from 4-8 pm; 20% back to Hawthorne. Will look into including flyer in blast. Book fair will be indoors. Student Council will have a bin for their winter drive and we'll also do a bin for a local nonprofit doing a gently used toy drive for new Venezuelan neighbors.
- II. **Coffee Sales:** December 6 is the last day to order. Slow response this year. Will order some to have for sale at holiday fair – hurricane blend. Half ground, whole bean. Get 40% support local.
- I. **Bulls Outing:** Chicago Bulls vs Knicks on Tuesday, April 9 at 7 p.m. Note that April 10th is a no-school day. Tickets are \$38 (300 level tickets). And additional \$15 raffle to stand in front of player during the raffle. Can use as holiday gift. Last year were able buy more tickets but this is it this year so buy now.
- II. **Teacher Cookie Boxes:** Bake or buy holiday cookies or treats and box for staff. Will send out a quick survey to see if some teachers are not interested. Bring in treats Monday 12/18 or 12/19 right after dropoff and then assemble the 19th and deliver to teachers/staff. Signup genius link coming out.
- III. **Domino's Pizza Fundraiser:** All set for January. Make about \$1000 each year.

OTHER BUSINESS

- VI. **8th Grade Fundraising:** Putting together list of all end of year activities and checking funds for fundraisers that we have done to see where we're at and what contributions are still needed from parents. This year's trips are paid for; fundraising is now for next 2 years' classes - building the pot for them. PTA has always set money set aside for scholarships but Trish has scholarship money too. For these trips cost estimates are based on # of people so price is subject to change change. DC had so many kids signed up that we needed another bus but PTA could cover. TestPrepChicago offers class on site for kids taking selective enrollment test – they gave money as well for 8th graders. Trish not sure if we will be revisiting Yellowstone; need to gauge parent interest/support.

- VII. **Zero Waste Program:** Officially starting zero waste lunchroom on Jan 10 for grades 3-8 initially. Need level I volunteers to help kids understand what goes where. Will have compost bin and recycling. Massive opportunity for school to lower its footprint and give kids tangible way to contribute. Need to clarify messaging/communication about role of JH ambassadors; only role is to support effort during last 10 minutes of lunch (not getting pulled out of class). Maybe need to clarify student roles and responsibilities. Big shoutout to admin and rest of staff for support. Compost company doing once a week pickup.
- VIII. **Student Council Updates:**
- a. Snowball Dance: Near the end of Q2, dance is on Friday so they collected lots of decorations – put a list together of preferred snacks. 40 kids coming so far. Might have spring dance as well. White/blue/silver decor. In gym.
 - b. Lost and Found: Will start having sorting times in the morning, segment to have kids come and get their items.
 - c. Winter Drive/Fundraiser: Have collected 60 coats so far and lots of other items. Will start collecting canned foods next month. Candygrams: will start week before winter break – candy canes. Not sure yet what to do with donations – water filtration? Maybe 7th and 8th grade field trips donation?
- IX. **Arts Partnership:** Dates almost set; Trish will firm up and send for distribution.
- X. **Student Raffle:** Starts in February.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting Wednesday January 10th.

Meeting adjourned.