

PTO Meeting Notes 12/8/2020

Present: Pam Schnatterly, HongMei Xu, Alana Marino, Rebecca Wasynczuk

Apparel Sale: The PTO currently awaits information regarding the results of the apparel sale to determine if we would like to continue with this vendor or have future apparel sales. We are working with Liz Williamson to determine the total dollar amount sold, and when the PTO will receive the proceeds. Some items were cancelled due to low stock.

Community Enrichment: Mary has proposed a sledding event for 8th graders. Hurdles that need to be overcome are: permission from Norfolk golf club, construction at the club, covid safety precautions, and liability. Alana is contacting the golf club and following up with Mary.

Social Media: There is a meeting this week with Pam, Hongmei, Jamy, and Jackie to make a plan for Thurston to have a social media presence (Facebook, Instagram). Items to be discussed include: who will manage the accounts, keeping the accounts limited to only Thurston Parents and staff, and what content the accounts should include.

Virtual Clubs: Karen R. has been working on a proposal to start remote clubs at school via Zoom to help incoming sixth graders start to build community and get to know their classmates. Mike has approved this effort with the stipulation that an adult must be present to moderate each club. This will be a big undertaking (requiring more helpers) and it involves finding adult volunteers to moderate, and finding high school students to run the clubs. Pam and Karen have created a google doc and Alana will help edit the document/proposal. Thurston hosted clubs through school in the fall, and if those clubs continue in the spring, we may want to combine efforts. We also discussed the format of teacher Allison Aubry's online art class (a paid class).

PTO expenses: PTO expenses/receipts/debit card for the November spontaneous teacher appreciation lunch and gifts have been collected and turned in to Alana (treasurer). Our current total of paid PTO dues is at \$12,200.

Unity Club: The sixth grade students along with guidance counselor Jaelithe Brodeur have formed a club called the Unity club whose mission is to support struggling Boston area teens during the holidays. Discussion is underway regarding which organization the students will partner with (Bridge over Troubled Water, Circle of Hope, or others), and what kind of collection/support they will provide.

METCO: METCO hosted a family trivia night in November as part of their community building efforts. It was a great success.

Next Meeting: Our Next meeting on January 12 will include the board members and all the committees “beyond the board”.