

Counselor's Office

Participants: Jessica Kirkland, Simone Goldfeder, Natalie Willes, Andi Mukul, Jen Rollins, Vince DiGianno, Marisa McLaughlin, Gaby Ordonez Llanos, and Andrew Johnson. Quorum met.

Announcements

Andi Mukul/Jen Rollins

- No announcements

Review and Approve Minutes

All Members

- Minutes approved for last 2 meetings.

Treasurer's Report

Vincent DiGiano

- \$103,000 give or take on balance. Largest deposit this month were wreath and garland sales - \$2800 in wreath sales. Some outreach donations also came in.
 - Outreach budget now good to cover the gift cards, and there was another \$200 or so that came in in terms of donations. \$500 from counselors + additional \$1800 to cover spring break and end of year gift cards.
- Expenses were outreach gift cards, the deposit on yearbooks, teacher grants, wreath/garland payments.
- New parent, Ashley Sauer Birman, is now doing gear sales, has been trained, and very enthusiastic. Need to restock inventory – will cost \$1000 in Jan.
- Rebecca Hildreth is doing Box tops– \$190 came in from this. Andi will follow-up with Rebecca around continuing this. But going forward, box tops can be scanned online and turned in versus collected at school.
- Some Holiday Home Tour ad sales and Zupans tickets sales are still outstanding. Lynn following up.
- PTA still needs to sell more Chinook books. PTA need to sell 3 more to break even. Will try to couple Chinook sales with eat out for Ainsworth events.
- Chromebooks were delivered in December, thank you!
- 10 teachers have not submitted a teacher grant yet. PTA will create a deadline by Spring Break for submitting teacher grants, and Andrew will review list of who has not submitted in order to follow-up too. PTA will be more clear about when to spend by next year; the funds intended to make the classroom experience better for current year, though some teachers will spend on an experience that happens later in the year.
 - Question: Is the librarian included in teacher grants? Yes.
 - Question: How were English OBOB books purchased this year? Not sure, Principal Johnson will follow-up on this. Answer: Sounds like district library funds used to pay for English OBOB.
 - Question: How will Spanish OBOB books be purchased? There is still an OBOB line item with \$750. These funds can be used for both OBOBs.

Update and Report on STEAM Day

Simone Goldfeder

- Science Fair is now under STEAM Day. This year trying to emphasize being hands-on, future based, and develop further how to apply school equity principles to some of the STEAM projects.
 - Getting Pamphlet translated into Spanish and Chinese. Announcements for STEAM day will be too.
 - No district wide science fair this year, but there's a different event occurring this year for the district
 - Question: What's being done to encourage the kids to doing Science Project?

- Different per classroom, but can't require students to do the Science Fair
- Question: Ideas for more parents and students to participate? How to make it less work/less barriers for kids or students?
 - Idea: A few workshops after school that help students to do science fair projects that were run by volunteers that would help with kids. Good idea.
 - Is transportation assistance necessary? Yes, most likely, but let's have an ongoing conversation on how to do this well.
 - What else can be done to encourage better equity and representation at STEAM Day?
 - Please send ideas around this to Simone.
 - Reaching out to the general community about ensuring that there are representative volunteers that are running these events.
- Discussed combining TAG/Enrichment activities, communications together, so more clear message around what opportunities are available for students at Ainsworth (e.g. OBOB, STEAM Day, etc)

Update and Discussion on Staffing

Andrew Johnson/Natalie Willes

- There has been student overages in the English 3rd grade classroom (35/36 students per class). There was a specific lack of EA support in Ms Goff's class.
- There was an initial discussion about having a district meeting with 3rd grade parents.
 - Principal Johnson met Deputy Superintendent yesterday.
 - District said the class can get the additional EA now. Very likely will fund an additional teacher for the 4th and 5th grade years if the 3rd grade English class remains this impacted. Will need to find classroom space for the new class, as it would mean 5 classrooms needed for that grade.
 - Mainly positive reception to communications released around this.

Volunteer Updates

Natalie Willes

- Question: When are we on having a guest speaker come to the school and have a conversation about race and equity as a school at an evening PTA meeting?
 - Looking at space to have conversations around this that thoughtful and aligned. Let's continue to have conversations about the best date to do this and share survey results.
- Question: Stiles family tragedy on beach, both children passed. Can PTA reach out to the Vestal school around the Stiles family as a PTA to express our sympathy and if there is anything that we can do?
 - Yes, we can. Andi/PTA will reach out to see what can be done to support their school/PTA with anything to assist.
- Question: How will Disaster Planning be moving forward? What about Afterschool Enrichment Program?
 - Disaster Planning: There is a list of parents who want to help with this.
 - Afterschool Enrichment Program: Suggestion for quarterly rotating programs versus multiple all at once.
 - Jen will follow up on moving forward both items.

Adjournment

Andi Mukul/Jen Rollins

Next Meeting: February 21, 2020; 1:00 PM; Will not be Library from now on. Looking for new space.