

Logan PTSO Meeting Minutes

September 7, 2022

Hybrid meeting (Mini-theatre in person & on Zoom)

Start time: 9:00 am ET

Attendees: Kerri Randall, Taylor Suarez, Becky Matz, Julie Ziobro, Pamela Fine, Yim McCabe, April Weber, Aron Butler, Christina Shinsky, Erin Barbossa, Catherine Archibald, Krysten Farjo, Susie Guest, Heather Polikoff, Julie Prussack, Rosi Torres, Ruth Estabrook, Tierra Jackson

President's Report - Kerri Randall

1. Welcome & Introductions of all attendees
2. Welcome everyone to the new school year. It's great to see new faces here and be in person together. Aron & I will be in person at the upcoming Staff meeting and reviewing teacher vouchers, field trips and PTSO events.
3. Beats & Treats is tentatively scheduled for Friday, October 28 from 6-8 pm. April will share more about how to volunteer.
4. No Principal Report today as Will is out of the office today.

Teacher Report - Tierra Jackson

1. We will start NWEA testing soon for 1st - 5th grade.
2. Thank you to the PTSO for the welcome lunch and coffee pods.
3. Academic Games - We will start up soon with practicing and Monday tournaments.
4. Science Olympiad - No updates yet but will share dates soon.
5. Student Council - We plan to set up a table to sell masks to recover costs and increase our donation.

Social Chair Report - April Weber

1. Beats & Treats is tentatively scheduled for Friday, October 28 from 6-8 pm.
2. We will be sending out opportunities to join the planning committee in October. We need lots of support to make the event a success. There are no costumes during the school day, but costumes are welcome and optional at Beats & Treats. We will have a DJ, games and snacks for sale at Beats & Treats.

Volunteer Updates & Open PTSO Positions - Erin Barbossa & Pamela Fine

1. Erin shared that targeted recruitment for volunteers netted 34 responses and 11 expressed interest in joining the PTSO board.
2. A PTSO interest survey was sent out in the latest eBackpack. We are hoping for new volunteers and focusing on a succession plan for all roles. Co-chairs are welcome.
3. Rosi shared feedback on the lunchtime helpers. We no longer need the 5th grade volunteers so the timing should be changed to 11:25 am - 12:40 pm to save time for the volunteers.

Academic Coordinator - Susie Guest

1. We are excited to return to in-person events now that volunteers are allowed back. Science Alive is scheduled for December 13 & 14.
2. Susie is planning the Buhr Park ice skating evening for Logan families. This will be a free event sponsored by the PTSO. Families are welcome to attend. More information to be shared once details are worked out.
3. Considering other ideas for the year but hoping for feedback. Susie is interested in teacher feedback based on what they'd like to see. Other ideas include Brainstormers, yoga and dance performances, storytellers and Doug Scheer (sp?) social studies presentation and Nuts about Science from Jennifer Price. Susie to email Kerri a list of items to share at the staff meeting. Please reach out to Susie with additional ideas.

Fundraising Update - Christina Shinsky

1. We are excited to kick off our biggest fundraiser for the year with the Fun Run on Wednesday, October 12. Dues and donations give us a good baseline to do all the things we want to do, but the Fun Run makes all the difference. Aron shared we have raised \$5700 in dues and donations to date.
2. Our goal is to raise \$15K this year via the Fun Run. We upped our game last year and it was so much fun. We plan to bring it all back this year, but plus more. We need lots of volunteers to make the event a success and it's easy to get involved. Posters are needed in the hall and families are welcome to create them. Our platform, 'Get moving crew' offers dynamic fliers. We need someone to run the fliers and put them in the teachers mailboxes. We will continue to offer incentives. Question - would the promise of extra recess be as fun? The kids seem to like the toys. Other volunteer opportunities include having someone to keep track of who gets which prize. We will also need help with vendors; Kona Ice, Balloon Arch, etc. Lots of opportunities to get involved. Christina is hosting a Zoom call on September 13th at noon to kick it off.
3. Suzanne Vu is organizing a Fun Run t-shirt that will be free for Logan students via donations from local businesses by donating to get their logo on the shirt. Kerri will send out the copy of the letter from Suzanne so PTSO members can request donations.
4. Food Fundraisers - We've had some recent strikeouts at our local places. Please let us know any other ideas. A discussion regarding how the recent increase in food costs is likely a burden on small businesses and may hinder their ability to offer discounts. Ideas include Panera, Little Caesars, Sweetwaters, Bearclaws. A mention of moving away from food fundraisers and towards experiences, such as a Logan family night at the movies, bowling, etc may be a better bet for the future.

Cafeteria Flag Update - Rosi Torres

1. The Cafeteria Flag project started 7 years ago and we are running out of space in the cafeteria to add more flags. We need to add 20 more flags, and we cannot go lower or higher based on facility guidelines. A survey to determine if additional flags are needed for this year will go out soon.
2. It is suggested to use smaller flags (3x5) and move them to the library. Based on research, the expense will be \$480 plus possible shipping cost.

3. Kerri motions to replace all flags with a smaller size and increase budget to \$600. April seconds. All are in favor. APPROVED.

Parent's Night Out Proposal - Pamela Fine

1. To build upon our goal of connecting the Logan community, we are proposing a Logan Parent's Night out to start the year. The goal is to have multiple events throughout the year at different times (daytime, evening, weekend, etc). The suggested event to start the year is a Logan Tailgate Happy Hour. Everyone could rep their teams (college or professional) with t-shirts, hats, etc (fun - but also a great conversation starter/connection point). We could offer food and drink specials. We just need to find the right spot but it could be a low pressure, easy way to get everyone together and build community. Consensus is to move forward. Proposed date is Thursday, October 20 from 7-9 pm at Rappourt. Attendees pay their own way.
2. Future events could include grade level events. Feedback that a smaller group could be less intimidating for new families. We could also consider Domino's farm shelter, Condado or Carson's for future events.

Treasurer's Report - Aron Butler

1. There isn't a printed treasurer report this month, but Aron reviewed the highlights:
 - a. We currently have a healthy balance (\$32,050) heading into the year before the Fun Run.
 - b. A check of \$1400 was received from the PTSO Thrift Shop
 - c. We paid \$5100 in expenses (including State of Michigan non-profit registration, liability insurance)
 - d. We received a grant proposal of \$2800 from Hilary Wooley. We will hold onto this until we receive more grants next month.
2. Question regarding the requirement to spend everything we raise. A discussion about the need to keep a healthy balance for buffer, but we spend what we raise. We plan to spend the money we raise on the kids and teachers. We must keep a 10% cushion based on our bylaws.
3. Plans for multi-year fundraising include a staff lounge update and continued work with previously started projects (outdoor space update, picnic tables).

Parent Questions & Concern

1. Tire Swing on the lower El playground - Is there a plan to replace it? Will shared that facilities tried to fix it, but it's not up to code. The district plans to replace it but it may take time.
2. Tech Use Policies at Logan - Catherine Archibald raised a concern regarding tech use and policies. There is concern about kids taking the computers back and forth daily. They are heavy in the backpacks and lead to extra screen time. A discussion regarding a need for norms to be established on usage across the district as each school has different guidelines. There is interest in how being a responsible digital citizen is covered. If other parents have concerns, connect with Catherine.
3. Safety Patrol - Will it return? Yes, there are plans for Safety Patrol to return this year.

Meeting adjourned at 10:37 am ET

Next meeting is Wednesday, September 28 at 9:00 am ET (Hybrid: Mini-Theater at Logan & on Zoom)