

Logan PTSO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

Hybrid Meeting (In person in hallway & on Zoom)

Start Time: 9:00 am ET

Attendees: Will Wright, Kerri Randall, Pamela Fine, Emily Chamberlain, April Weber, Ruth Estabrook, Zhou Zhang, Matt Bowden, Tim McCabe, Erica Johnson, Susie Guest, Tierra Jackson, Tian Gu, Rena Gasimova, Rebecca Thompson, Jayme Gherke, Caroline Lukich

1. Principal's Report– Will Wright

- a. General updates- Will was sick last week and missed some school events including the “New Logan” Community Engagement Day. Staff did a great job stepping up. Generally speaking feedback was positive and well received. The long (4 year) process will continue refining plans as we go. Picture day went well. Retake day coming. NWA testing completed.
- b. Danielle Cabell (SLP) will be our representative for AAPAC (Ann Arbor Parent Advisory Committee for Special Education).
- c. Communications- Some parents/teachers missed information re: student council. Concern as it went out on ebackpack. Let's give it some time for adjustment. We can also put ebackpack in WhatsApp.
- d. Halloween Celebrations- Logan has not celebrated Halloween in the classroom for a long time to respect those who do not celebrate. We do some activities in the classroom (pumpkin painting) that may be considered Halloween related. Families who do not celebrate feel uncomfortable and may keep children home from school on these days. Should we just call it Halloween or reconsider these activities? Beats and Treats event is OK since it is an after-school activity.
 - i. We could modify activities to be more fall/seasonally themed.
 - ii. Will is going to check in with families that are not participating to see what exactly causes feelings of exclusion. Building leadership is getting input from staff.
 - iii. PTSO budget CAN do without the fundraising aspect if need be but the community building IS important. Building leadership is getting input from staff.
- e. Tire Swing is finally here!
- f. Compost trays are back in the cafeteria!

2. Teacher's Report– Tierra Jackson

- a. Thank you again for the coffee, treats!
- b. No classroom news, requests or concerns.
- c. Student Council- voting this week. The deadline was extended one week. Students may come home with “I voted” stickers.

- d. Safety Squad has started.
 - e. Academic Games have started. First tournament is on 10/21. Students only.
 - f. Science Olympiad- April 20th
3. President's Report– Kerri Randall and Pamela Fine
- a. All PTSO monthly meeting dates are listed on ebackpack. Zoom link accessible from home page. 9:00ET at Logan.
 - b. Logan Playdate had a good turn out. PTSO members added.
 - c. Calendar Review- calendar/times has been updated on the website.
 - d. Science fair date? Not yet. Maybe April? Waiting on input from 5th graders because their participation is mandatory.
 - i. There is a challenge with the Heritage Festival (April 18th) being around holidays such as Passover, Ramadan, etc. because food is involved. It is less challenging to have the Science Fair during this time as food is not involved.
 - e. Bylaws Update
 - i. Almost completed. Utilizing previous bylaws, bylaws from other PTSOs (specifically Thurston) to compare. One significant change to bylaws will be voting by proxy (email, video, telephone).
 - f. Many new PTSO board members, co-chairs. Welcome and thank you!
 - i. All positions are filled and more than filled.
4. Academic Coordinator– Susie Guest
- a. Toledo Opera scheduled for November 3rd.
 - b. Michigan Science Center has a date in April. Waiting to hear from Science Alive about June 10/11.
 - c. There has been another suggestion- Nutty Scientist.
5. Fundraising Update– Christina Shinsky & Suzanne Vu
- a. Fun Run scheduled for October 11. We have already raised \$14,000 with 18 days left! Participation tends to increase in the last week. \$15,000 is the goal which was surpassed last year.
 - b. Volunteer sign up will go out soon. We can also rely on parent spectators to assist if volunteers are lacking.
 - c. There will be a balloon arch, DJ, a bracelet per lap, Kona Ice in the afternoon, t-shirts (Chelsea Printing).
 - i. T-shirt costs are covered by a few sponsors in the area. Will come a week before Fun Run.
 - d. Fun Run schedule by grade level on ebackpack.
 - e. There are other schools in the district having trouble meeting their fundraising goals. Could we partner or donate? This could align with equity goals. It may depend on how we advertised the fundraiser. We need to be transparent to our donators.
 - i. Julie is district-wide PTSO representative

1. Partnering won't happen this year but there is discussion here and at the central PTO meetings for the future.
 2. Can we have two "buckets," one for Logan and one for others?
 3. We could donate at the end of year with any surplus?
 4. We could hold a fundraiser to raise for other PTSOs?
 5. The district has an equity committee that is working on a solution to the inequity. Anyone is welcome to join.
6. Social Chair Update– April Weber and Tierra Jackson
- a. Beats and Treats- October 27th.
 - i. Meeting Monday Oct 9th 4:00-5:00pm
 - ii. Volunteers needed for prizes and games
 - iii. Pizza budget has increased to \$600 (price used to be \$5, now \$7.50 and used to order 57 pizzas, now 80).
 - iv. Expense estimate is \$1760 however budget is \$1200. We do recoup some of that during the event (about \$1000). Also working to get more of a discount on pizza so the budget is a little up in the air.
 1. Can we do something instead of pizza?
 - a. It is dinner time. And other snacks add up quickly.
 2. Tickets are 50 cents each. Pizza is two tickets. If we sell 80 pizzas we will get \$640 back. Therefore if we only sell pizza we will have recovered cost of pizza.
 - v. *Motion to increase budget to \$2000. Voted. YES.
 - vi. Pumpkins due October 25
7. Communications Update– Sonali Pradhan
- a. Ebackpack linked in Will's weekly email.
 - b. Specials spotlight- We can still include any special newsletters in the new format but they will be in the ebackpack.
8. Secretary Report– Emily Chamberlain
- a. Minutes approved from 9/6/23.
 - b. Will send final draft to Sonali at Loganptsocommunications@gmail.com
9. Treasurer Report– Tian Gu
- a. Monthly balance sheet [here](#).
 - b. Fun Run has raised \$14,000 so far. This is not included on the balance sheet yet.
 - i. Dues and donations are significant this year!
 - ii. Teacher Grant Requests- Kerri didn't have access until this meeting. She can now see there are several requests. She will first have Will review and then send to the PTSO board members to vote.
 - iii. Our budget is currently operating on spending more money than we bring in. We don't have a long term plan that is sustainable for our current spending/raising. This is a larger conversation to be had in the future.

10. Beautification Update– Becky Matz

- a. Soccer goals completed.
- b. Donations of gently used sports balls- about 15 have been donated so far.
- c. \$100 line item in the budget for sports equipment on the playground.
- d. Becky is requesting to remove day lilies that are infested with grass near the front entrance. We could introduce “Split Your Plants” where we gather plant splits from families to spruce up the area.

11. Community Connections Liason– Matt Bowden

- a. Event Ideas Survey- a survey was sent out requesting community input/ideas for future events. (Food trucks, parents night out, etc.)
 - i. Please spread the word and fill out the survey! We will promote it for a few more weeks.
 1. We should put a link on facebook.
 2. We should tell students so they can spread word to parents.

12. Parent Concerns– Kerri Randall and Pamela Fine

- a. Hospitality- coffee has been replenished.
 - i. We need snacks! Requests were sent out on ebackpack.
 - ii. We especially need food donations for the teachers on conference days.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, November 1 at 9:00am