

## Logan PTSO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

Hybrid Meeting (In person in Mini-Theatre & on Zoom)

Start Time: 9:00 am ET

Attendees: Will Wright, Kerri Randall, Pamela Fine, Christina Shinsky, Erin Barbossa, Emily Chamberlain, April Weber, Ruth Estabrook, Cristina Alcoba, Yun Han, Zhou Zhang, Cherry Li, Erica Johnson, Brenda Cox, Susie Guest, Tierra Jackson, Tian Gu, Rena Gasimova, Irina Zhang, Lily Guzman, Rebecca Thompson, Suzanne Vu, Jayme Gherke, Stephanie Christensen, Megan LiPuma, Zhu Chen, Jen Stieve-Swarup, Caroline Lukich, Julie Prussack, Karen Kim, Matt Bowden

### **Welcome & Introductions–** Kerri Randall & Pamela Fine

1. Welcome and Introductions. Large group for first meeting with many new faces and new board members!
2. PTSO meetings- Wednesdays at 9:00am, monthly. We will also be adding more “informal” evening meetings throughout the year targeting those who cannot attend in the morning.
  - a. PTSO playdate Friday, September 8th from 6:00-7:00 pm at the UE playground. Kids can play on the playground while parents learn info about PTSO and upcoming events, provide input, etc.
3. Spirit Wear Swap
  - a. There is a box by the front door for outgrown spirit wear. Donations can be general or classroom specific, anything that says “Logan.” Do not include rec/ed wear.
  - b. We will have a spirit wear swap table at Curriculum Night (September 12th from 6:00-7:30) for parents/students to shop. Items will be free. Leftovers will go to emergency clothes/supplies.
    - i. Volunteers needed to organize the clothes prior to swap and to manage the tables during curriculum night.
      1. Set up 5:15-5:45, UE parent 6:00-6:30, LE parent 7:00-7:30, clean up 7:30-8:00.
4. New PTSO president email address- [loganptsopres@gmail.com](mailto:loganptsopres@gmail.com). Use this to contact Kerri and/or Pamela.
5. Updating Bylaws. Will be updating bylaws to be internet friendly.

### **Academic Coordinator–** Susie Guest (via Zoom)

1. PTSO funds assemblies and presentations with a budget of \$5000.
2. Science Alive is booked for '23-'24 school year. There is an opening June 10/11 however this is not ideal due to many end of the year events. Will wait to hear about other openings.

3. If we cannot book Science Alive, our budget will be open to other assemblies. Email Susie with ideas. Susie will present to Will, Kerri, Pamela and teachers.
  - a. Michigan Science Center?
    - i. Would probably need two separate shows for EL and UL.
    - ii. Kaboomistry? Could have the same month as the Science Fair (February or March) to boost enthusiasm.
  - b. Doug Scheer and Uncle Sam's Comedy Jam?
    - i. Several different programs with different targets. Available on several dates.
  - c. Could we have the snake at 5th grade graduation?

#### **Principal's Report– Will Wright**

1. PTSO helps to create important activities beyond the classroom (traditions, music performances, theater, and field trips). ALL kids have access to these enrichment activities which help to build community and create happy social experiences and memories.
2. PTSO also assists with the day to day such as classroom supplies, climbing wall, recorders, and string instruments.
3. It has been a smooth start to the school year. Kids are happy.
4. First assembly took place last week, outside, a tradition kept since COVID.
  - a. Multilingual greeting, story, staff introductions. A new tradition- flag raising ceremony by 5th grade safeties. Will take the flag down together at the closing assembly.
5. This week Will goes to every classroom to read a book. He reads "Ish" in kindergarten classrooms and "All Are Welcome" in the other grades.
6. We need a lunch supervisor. This is a paid position. Do not need to commit to all 5 days.

#### **Teacher's Report– Tierra Jackson**

1. There is not much to report given the school year just started.
2. Ms. Jackson has many roles:
  - a. Student Council (runs with Ms. Stewart)- link to sign up in ebackpack, open to 3-5 grades.
  - b. Academic Games will also be open to 3-5 grades.
  - c. Science Olympia- looking for volunteers.
  - d. Social Committee (runs with April)
  - e. Teacher liaison.
  - f. Cheer coach for Huron HS. Look for the flyer from Student Council inviting Logan students to a football game.
3. Thank you for the BBQ lunch on Tuesday. Thank you for the coffee pods and creamers!
4. NWA testing for everyone- coming soon.
5. Reporting for Ms. Krile- please look out for and spread the flyer re: Mott Fundraiser.

#### **Fundraising Update– Christina Shinsky**

1. Raises \$30,000 per year on average.

- a. Many uses such as field trips (bus rides are expensive!), equipment for the teachers, daily school needs, as well as the fun events such as carnival, halloween event.
2. Two primary fundraisers
  - a. Family dues and donations raise \$8000-9000 on average.
  - b. Fun run raises \$17,000 on average.
  - c. Passive donations- Busche's, Thrift Shop, etc.
3. Fun Run info coming via ebackpack and Friday folders. Scheduled for October 11th.
  - a. Collect via "Get Moving Crew"- way to seek donations online. Text/email link to family/friends. There is a way to see where donations are coming from- global! Encourage families to register and share page. Milestone rewards offered to the children. Fun event with DJ, bracelets for each lap completed, parents cheering students on.
    - i. We believe we have enough bracelets. Should confirm two boxes.
  - b. Volunteers needed for both the day of the event and prior planning. Link to volunteer will be in the next ebackpack.

**Communications Update**– Kerri Randall, Pamela Fine & Sonali Pradhan

1. Goal to streamline communication going well this year. There is one newsletter from Will in blog format with bullet points summarizing the post. There is a "Useful Links" section including the PTSO ebackpack. There is also a translator which Tian confirmed is functional!
  - a. Logan Ledger (monthly newspaper) is OUT in efforts to streamline communication.
  - b. We have also implemented Whats App to post announcements such as volunteer opportunities, sign up links, and important dates. 65 families have already signed up.

**Volunteer Update**– Erin Barbossa

1. Progressing toward the goal of adding co-chairs to help with transition as some of our board members have older kids. 22 responses to the volunteer interest form. 6 of them wanted to join PTSO and Erin reached out personally.
2. Winterfest- working with the rink to set a date.

**Beautification Update**– Becky Matz (update from Pamela)

1. Collecting gently used or deflated sports balls in the bin out front. No equipment, balls only.
2. Soccer goals are in Will's office waiting to be assembled. They are to be placed in the same location, must be anchored. Do we have a volunteer for this?

**Treasurer Report**– Tian Gu

1. No formal report as the year just started.
2. Raised almost \$7,000 from dues/donations from families. (Budget \$8000)
3. Budget for the merchant category (i.e. Busche's, Thrift) is \$2000.

4. There are requests from teachers for classroom supplies. Once Tian has the debit card (soon) she will take care of these requests.
5. Balance sheet will go online so it is accessible to all.
  - a. [PTSO Funding Request](#)- There is an online funding request which will help both parties. Request amount needed, choose a category in drop down menu.
  - b. There is a link to the budget online, accessible to all, showing how much was in the budget, how much was spent, and remainder.
    - i. Great for coordinators managing an event. You do NOT need a vote for spending unless it is over your budget or if you need to change the amount budgeted.
6. Ms. Jackson thanks PTSO for funding toward field trips, shelving for books.
7. Kerri stated the teacher grant will soon be sent to Will.
8. Will asked if a list of leads/coleads could be shared for new members?

#### **Calender Review-** Kerri Randall & Pamela Fine

1. Master PTSO calendar with all the events on the ebackpack.
2. Last year the talent show had to be rescheduled twice due to snow days/bad weather. Should we move it to a less risky month (March, April)?
  - a. Book Fair is March 4-8. We could move the Talent Show to sometime that week and have the book fair open during (before/after) the show.
    - i. Would this interfere with Literacy night? Are we having Literacy night this year? Having all 3 in one night would be too much.
3. PTSO playdate September 8th UE playground 6:00-7:00.
4. Next PTSO meeting Wednesday, October 4th at 9:00am. We're going to need a bigger room! Location TBD.

#### **Parent Concerns-** Kerri Randall & Pamela Fine

1. Tire swing is still on backorder with little hope of arriving. Will is going to reach out again. Equipment is expensive due to liability. Cannot repair equipment or will lose liability, must replace. We could put something else there? Maybe a flying saucer?
2. Sustainability in the cafeteria- Ideas for reducing waste?
  - a. There is a pilot for a compost program at another school. Partnership with the city may be an issue in managing compost.
  - b. We transitioned to non styrofoam but it seems to be back.
  - c. Julie can reach out to PTSO council to see what other districts are doing.
3. Where are volunteer opportunities listed? Ebackpack and Whats App.
  - a. Link in Will's weekly email will take you to Will's blog. PTSO ebackpack on the right of this blog.
  - b. Big events will get a separate email in order to stand out.
  - c. ALL volunteers must fill out a background check! This is required annually (per school year) so even if you volunteered last year, you must complete again this year. It is online and does not take long.

*Meeting adjourned at 10:07 am ET*

Next meeting is Wednesday, October 4 at 9:00 am ET at Logan (specific location TBD) or via Zoom.