

EHS PTO Meeting Notes – January 9, 2019

Attending: Eleni Glerum, Chrissy Harrison, Judy Brenner, Erica Allenburg, Priya Jain, Angella McGarvey, Cheryl Dulas, Tony Succio, Betsy Pfiefer, Andy Beaton, Kathryn Koessel

President Update (Chrissy and Eleni)

- Minutes from December 2018 PTO meeting approved with no changes.
- Reminders:
 - Help needed to pass out treats for students during finals at 10:00am on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Contact Eleni if interested.
 - The EHS PTO is planning to host two tables for the Ed Fund Cake Off on Friday, February 1st at either 7:30am or 10:00am. It is casual and informative. Please come support the Ed Fund.
- We are trying to schedule an event to help educate and answer questions the parents. Having difficulty finding adequate meeting space, but will continue to reach out.
- Principal Coffee – Andy is still working on what he wants to say and what it will look like.

Treasurer Update (Chrissy for Yong Chen)

\$39,000 -- well above budget. Chrissy will send out actual budget.

- We need to go back to teachers and ask for mini grant requests.
- We may also want to help with unfunded requests from Ed Fund.
- We are still waiting for the mental health requests (the PTO cannot fund the entire amount, but will try to contribute.)
- The signage for the flex spaces approved last year has not been paid out yet. The invoice is forthcoming.

School Board Update (Erica Allenburg)

- Retreat this weekend.
- Strategic plan: The Strategic planning process is well underway. Focusing on themes that have come from surveys, focus groups. Revisiting vision, mission etc. and working on strategic objectives.
- Budget: The board is also working on budget with given assumptions.
- Legislative Advocacy: The Legislative Action Committee platform:
 - 1) stabilize education funding per school district – 3 percent per year -- and index the education funding to inflation;
 - 2) increase state funding for mandated special education – the mandates aren't necessarily paid by federal and the remainder needs to come from school district;
 - 3) reduction in mandates and increased control especially standardized testing;
 - 4) ensuring safety in schools beyond just physical now rather than personnel;

5) increasing and diversifying the teacher workforce.

Principal Report (Andy Beaton)

- Finals schedule is set next week. Finals in the morning and teacher office hours in the afternoon.
- Cocoa and Cram hosted by Link Crew yesterday. Well attended (especially the snack part!)
- MCA Science Test – how to make it meaningful? Align it to a course. Second semester will be 10 percent of final grade in Biology. Not punitive, but try to motivate them to do well. If students perform above expectations, they will be exempt from the final.
- What is new to the school:
 - District identified on “Go” list (those who have done poorly on MCA.) 69 students identified, 51 have a plan, only 18 students that didn’t have touch points within the school. Focus on getting those students on the radar.
 - Advanced Algebra and Bridge classes – students in regular classes with additional help. (only 25% are struggling) 88.9 percent agreed that their knowledge had grown. Comments include: “Learning and it feels good.”
 - SMATH – 650 people check-ins in peer tutoring. 40 requests for tutors to help with individual classes – want to use more as a help within the classroom. Usage: 61 percent of ninth grade.
 - Directed study – It was built to be used as an intervention not permanent. SST put into a small group study hall.
 - Realize some kids have deficits in reading. 9th and 10th grade who need some type of reading interventions--about 30.

Mini Grants (Betsy Pfeifer)

- Request for \$517.91 purchase a Temporal Thermometer for Health Office from Gretchen Gosh. Wants to replace oral thermometers for accurate reading. Discussion about whether this is the best price. APPROVED
- Request for \$157.96 for a class set of Latin novellas for Latin from Emese Drew. APPROVED
- Update from the Orchestra locks – used budget money instead.

Committee Updates

- Marketing (Judy Brenner) – PTO newsletter didn’t go out in December, but the info was in other sources.
- Hospitality (Angella McGarvey) – Cookies for staff; bringing in smoothies on Thursday.

