

Meramec PTO Meeting
Thursday, April 23, 2015
8:45 – 10: AM

Attendance

Tanya Vedantham, Angela Pompian, Jodi Ladner, Michelle Stone, Dan Fazio, Susan Yang, Cari Lowry, Tarita Rhimes, Lisa Jackson Terry, Jay Epstein, Jenny Abeles, Stephanie Gross

Call To Order

Stephanie Gross

Completed PTO Events

Stephanie Gross

Lunches of Love provided 320 bottles of water and 204 sack lunches for Peter and Paul Community Center. Thank you to everyone who participated.

Saratoga Lanes

Angela Pompian

No financials yet, but thanks to everyone for coming. It was a lot of fun and the sign up parties were well received.

Read, Right, Run

S. Gross for T. Murtha

We had 52 participants total and 46 made it to the culminating April 11th race. One more “Right” for the year will be the April 25th bike drive. All parents said it’s been a positive experience for their children. We will repeat RRR in 2015-16 with hopefully even more participants.

5 Below Fundraiser

Tanya Vedantham

We had a lot of participation and made a lot of purchases. The Meramec PTO raised \$59.10 (10% of proceeds). Having these fundraisers is a learning experience for everyone...we’re looking at these fundraisers to evaluate what we will do in the future.

Committee Reports

Flower Sale

S. Gross for Betsy Cuneo

This year’s flower sale will be on Wednesday, April 29th, on the school black top from 3 – 6:30 PM.. We have a very nice assortment of plants and flowers. You can check out the catalog online to see more details of what will be available. All purchases cash or check.

Bike Drive

S. Gross for Tina Murtha

Community wide Bike Drive Saturday April 25th on the Meramec blacktop. Collecting children and adult bicycles and equipment for St. Louis Bike Works.

Field Day

S. Gross for Julie Sandler

Flyers went home last week to recruit volunteers for field day. This year it will be held on Friday May 22nd, lunch provided for volunteers. If the weather is nice, it will be held at Shaw Park.

Summer Send Off

S. Gross for Stacy Donohue

Summer Send off will occur on Tuesday, May 26th at Gay Field from 4pm-8:30pm. Flyers have already gone out in backpacks to sign up for field day. Make sure to sign up

in prior to the event- \$18/wristband in advance, \$22/door. The carnival is the same as last year, you can buy unlimited rides with the purchase of a wristband. Look for an email that will be coming out asking for donations for the bake sale and cake walk. Carnival games will be there as well as rides but aren't part of the wristband. To participate in games, you will need to pay in cash.

Yearbook

Jodi Ladner

We have finished the yearbook and it's very cute. We will make some changes for next year. Getting pictures is the hardest thing, and it's crucial to get as many pictures as possible.

Treasurer's Report

Jay Epstein

Jay has been trying to wrap up a few things with Saratoga Lanes regarding tax exempt status. Hopefully he will have all that information soon.

Jay has the checkbook and all documents with him if anyone needs to take a look.
Motioned and seconded to approve treasurer's report

See attached sheets for more details on financials.

Communications

Angela Pompian

Summer Send Off materials are going out. Angela is sending an eblast about summer send off to give more details. It's an amazing, fun carnival for everyone.

Principal's Report

Lisa Jackson Terry

Staffing for next year- hasn't heard of any retirees yet.
There is one teacher in 5th grade who will be taking a year of absence.
Looking at adding additional staff for an another reading specialist.
Looking for two additional instructional interns but the school needs approval for the additional funds.

Looking at changing the day to day schedule regarding lunch time and recess.
Considering moving up the tardy bell to 8:30, that's where extended time would come from. Core instructional blocks change for the potential to create flexibility

Anthony Henderson's new schedule will mean he will be more intensely working with kids

Meramec is creating a new committee to discuss the food in the cafeteria, so children have a voice on in some of the decisions.

New blacktop begins work on June 2015. There is the possibility for changing the surface of the blacktop.

Staff Request

S. Gross for Jeri Lynn Palmer, LJT

Mrs. Palmer is requesting \$100.00 for author Carol Shepley to speak to all 4th and 5th grade students. Wrote St. Louis, An Illustrated Time Line and Movers and Shakers, Scalawags, and Suffragettes: Tales from Bellefontaine Cemetery. Coincides with grades lessons on Missouri history.

<http://carolshepley.com/>

Tanya motioned to approve, Jodi seconded. Approved

Mrs. Jackson Terry asked for \$100 for 65 Missouri shape cookies by Tom Eamons for all 4th Graders. Cookies celebrate the completion of their MO history studies. Cookies were previously supplied by the District. Motioned and seconded.

Mrs. Jackson Terry said that all three elementary schools are asking their respective PTOs to provide breakfast for staff for an extra grading day for teachers (Friday, May 29th). An additional grading date was added to ensure all grading would be completed in time. The PTO approved to allocate \$200 to provide breakfast for the teachers.

New Business

5th Grade Promotion

Susan Yang

The T-shirts that were ordered will be delivered soon. Tom Eamons will be supplying baked goods. Angela Pompian is working on the slide show. The committee is talking to some 4th graders to help this year.

Dropbox for PTO documents is now available. Previous flyers and documents will all be available for future use.

Slate for next year is almost finished. We are still looking for someone to help with graphics.

Adjournment

Stephanie Gross

10:00AM

Next and LAST PTO Meeting of 2014-15 School Year - Thursday, May 7, 2015 6:30 PM at the home of Stephanie Gross, 12 Brentmoor Park, 63105