

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE PTO FOR
WYDOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL
NOVEMBER 14, 2016**

A meeting of the PTO for Wydown Middle School was held, as scheduled pursuant to due notice, on November 14, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. CT at the Wydown Middle School Main Street.

The following members of the Board were present at the meeting: Stephanie Abbajay, President; Brenda Guynes-Glick, President; Katie Sandquist, Communications, and Angela Osborne, Secretary.

The following members were also present: David Wilson, Caroline Early, Susan Kronemer, Laurel Miller, Andrea Topps, and Peter Sparks.

Jamie Jordan and Jill Warner were also present.

Stephanie Abbajay welcomed members of the PTO and reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes by Stephanie Abbajay

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the October meeting, which was seconded and passed.

Staff Request for Funding Presentation and Discussion by Stephanie Abbajay

Niyo Dancers:

The new 8th grade Science teacher has a connection with Niyo dancers from his time at Kirkwood. They visit each year from Rwanda and bring African dancing, storytelling, and art. They will be here during the week before Thanksgiving and will be performing for various teams. Dr. Jordan requested that the PTO cover some of the cost, which is \$500. A motion was made to fund the entire amount, which was seconded, and passed.

Toilet Talk:

Toilet Talk is a program that was funded last year to install plastic sign holders on the back of the doors in the bathroom stalls. Only enough holders were purchased for the stall doors. Since there are only two stalls in the boys' bathrooms, they are not seeing the messages. During an informal poll of 6th graders, it was discovered that the boys aren't seeing the messages. The health department requested funding for equal access to the signs for everyone in the building. For 25 signs (to replace two broken signs and have nine extra signs) the cost is \$292.25. A motion made to fund the entire amount, which was seconded, and passed.

Treasurer's Report by Stephanie Abbajay

Fundraising totals \$20,950 in the general budget of our \$33,850 budgeted amount (approximately 62% funded). 51% of the population has contributed. A reminder will be sent on Thursday to those who have not had an opportunity to contribute.

The Statement of Activity was provided and the current bank balance is \$58,457.77. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report, which was seconded and passed.

Community Service Project by Stephanie Abbajay

This year's community service project will support the Kingdom House. The Kingdom House is a local non-profit education center for economically disadvantaged kids and families. Their mission is to help those in poverty find their way out so they can live economically independent lives. Betsy Cuneo spoke with the leader of the organization and learned that their most urgent needs are paper, cleaning, and personal products because food stamps cannot be used to purchase these items. The effort will start in early-December with an email blast to all families.

Fall Family Festival Debrief by Brenda Guynes-Glick

The event went well and movies were shown in the theater with themes such as social justice, bullying, and other timely topics. Approximately 50 families attended and brought desserts to share with all.

Winter/Spring PTO programming by Stephanie Abbajay

Ideas were requested for this year's event. Last year, we did an arts festival with a visiting artist and in the spring, we will do Give Back Night. The event was held late January/February last year. We would like to have everything finalized by January 9th. Suggestions included a movie night, trivia night for kids, talent show, fun stations (like last year), a parent connections event, and a program on dealing with the stress of homework. It was also discussed that we not do a winter event and instead, go deeper with existing programs on the calendar.

Principal Report by Dr. Jamie Jordan

Planning is underway for next year, including the course selection process and finalizing dates for meetings. They are considering offering another coding and web design class next year because enrollment is so strong, but additional staffing needs will need to be determined for these practical arts classes.

A question was asked about co-teaching next year and whether the program will be expanded. They are assessing the effectiveness of this program.

They are reviewing the schedule again, as it was changed two years ago. The topics under consideration are the discrepancy between core class minutes and providing more flexibility for team activities.

The Principal Advisory Group, which meets monthly, has come together to discuss the schedule and the future of the advisory program, especially at the 7th and 8th grade levels.

The fall play was a success, and we are looking forward to spring performance. The theater department is looking at ways to include more students.

Other Business by Stephanie Abbajay

The next PTO meeting will be held January 9, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in WMS Main Street.

Conclusion

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Osborne, Secretary