**Wydown PTO Meeting Minutes**

**December 11, 2023 @ 12:00 PM via Zoom**

ACCESS MEETING USING ZOOM LINK:

https://claytonschools-net.zoom.us/j/92827898881?pwd=Zks0cVJBeWVqcGljellSSXdSNXp2UT09#success

In Attendance: Cara Downs, Betsy Meyland, Dr. Jordan, Whitney Lorenz, Will Liu, Elizabeth Macanufo, Stacy Siwak, Jenny Abeles, Lori Hausladen, Joanna Dinsmore, Amber Kempf, Erin Paulacleoye, Sharmice Frazier-Boyd, Jeffrey Lewis, Katie Huffman, Viplor Kumar Biswas, Soleita Lee, Palmer, Michelle Abounader

Approved minutes from November 13th Meeting – motion to approve by Lori Hausladen and 2nd by Jenny Abeles, no opposed, approved.

**Clayton School Board Update w/ Stacy Siwak**

We have 7 School board members and are needing to elect 2 more for the rotation. Now is the time to file through December 26th. The goal of these positions is to strictly review and approve policy for the district and this at times comes from state laws. These positions are responsible for high level decisions and not about implemnentation of policies in the schools. They evaluate and handle the hiring of the superintendent. Big initiative is currently on community engagement, had first community event at Starbucks to get to know people in the district and community, more will be coming up. Time commitment for these positions will be meetings twice a month and time preparing for meetings. We’ve had two or three that have filed to apply for these positions currently. Election is the first Tuesday in April. Reach out to Stacy with any questions.

No term limits on school board. Amy Rubin and Jason Wilson are rolling off but may also reapply.

**Principal’s Update - Dr. Jordan**

Continuing to work on “Sense of Belonging”, tracked through Panorama, this last week was the student component with student ambassadors. Kate Pouch, Asst. Principal led the sessions and they looked at data presented to teachers and will tackle what they feel will help the most. One insight from this was that we do a lot for 6th graders and not as much for 7th and 8th graders. They will look into this closer.

Decided to leave walk throughs the same but will do better with timing and signage.

Gave the staff a “Sense of Belonging” survey and will review in January.

Parent-teacher conferences – will roll Google Form to parents beforehand with expectations about the conferences to help as a guide.

Course Selection process is coming up. If you have an incoming 6th grader then this will go out Jan. 2nd and 3rd. The week of the 15th will be for 7th and 8th graders. January 18th will be parent/teacher night for incoming 6th graders. The 8th graders going into 9th grade will start placement tests for math and science next week.

Also in January, teacher positions open – Wydown has the bulk of teachers retiring, please go to the Clayton District website to apply. Hiring needs to go to the board by Feb. 15th.

**Treasurer’s Report - Amber Kempf**

1) As of December 5, 2023, the PTO has $91,667.12 in the bank.

$26,567.71 are Restricted Funds in the Jekyll Island Scholarship Account

$2894.43 are Restricted Funds in the Clayton Connections Fund

$62,204.98 in total are general PTO funds

2) Highlights since our last meeting in October

$5000 Donation from the Opus Foundation

$611.75 Funds for Excellence Donations

$277.50 Deposit for Skating Rink – We Are Wydown Skating Party

$1,862.52 in Spiritwear Sales

$23,975.00 Budget

$21,617.44 – raised to cover budget

**President’s Report - Betsy & Cara**

Past Events

12/1 Winter Fun Fest - Rachel STUCO

Went awesome, 250 bought tickets, mostly 6th graders, some 7th and 8th, well behaved, made a conga line, gym was full. Does get tricky when they leave because they can’t come back in, try to make sure parents are in the know. Thank you to all the parents and staff for helping with that. Recommended to put the date out earlier so more can attend.

Upcoming Events

12/16 - Middle School Night at CHS Hockey Game 7:45 pm Brentwood Ice Rink – going out in Sunday newsletter and then requested to go out with announcements for school. They would appreciate arrival by 7:25 and its $5 cash for each person, under 12 free

12/19 - Staff Holiday Luncheon - Jessica and Jenny – Tres Reyes catering, will set it all up, taco bar, no parent help needed.

12/19 (changed from 12/20) Student Gab and Grub – Lori – goal is to get the kids to socialize, build bonds, will have about 6 throughout the year, budget is around $300 total, next one is the holiday one. Plan is to separate the grades in different areas, may include the choir for music in the Main Street area and then use holiday music in the gym. If the weather is good, then it may move outside. Dr. Jordan will talk with the choir students to see if they are interested in singing that day. The timing is 2:45 – 3:15.

Parent parties scheduled at Clayton Wine House 5:30-7:30 pm on the following Thursdays: Grade level ambassadors will be recruited for this.

* + - 1. Jan. 18 - 6th Grade
      2. Jan. 24 - 7th Grade
      3. Feb. 1 - 8th Grade

1/26 Middle School Night at CHS Girls B-Ball Game 5:45 pm

2/16 Wydown Family Skate at Brentwood Ice Rink 10 - 11:30 am, have reached out to adult supervisors for on the rink, skates are $2 and all present at the meeting were in agreement to pay for all the skates in advance to eliminate a wait in line once students get there. Students do need to be with a parent, but not necessarily their parent.

2/24 Trivia Night at the Heights 7 pm - Jenny A., it will be $320 for a table of 8, this increased because they aren’t doing the same fundraising as last year, no silent auction, there will be raffles, registration will be open soon. Adults only, doors open at 6 PM.

Spiritwear Update - New and improved SpirtWear store went out last week and had great traction. Everything is bagged and ready to be delivered.

Vote for additional funds allocated to Teacher Appreciation events – recognize that they don’t have enough in the budget, so we voted on $1,100 to the budget this year to be able to cover the planned events. Motion to approve by Jenny Abeles, Michelle Aboundader with a 2nd, no opposed, so approved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50

**Next meeting will be Monday, January 22 at 12:00 pm**