

January PTO Meeting:

Attendees: JJ Flotken, Stephanie Gross, Jessica Graetz, Pam Dacey, Mike McQueen, Laura Seelbach, Patty Li, Mamta Guatam, Lisa Jackson-Terry, Cari Lowry, Stephanie Konradi, Leslie Wilson, Jessica Lucas, Dottie Silverman, Jenny Abeles, Bridget McAndrew

Completed Events:

- The winter holiday party was successful and we are gearing up for the Valentine's Day party which will be the last party of the school year. All snacks for the classroom parties must be in compliance with the new school snack guidelines.
- The yearbook committee received 43 submissions for the cover this year; please remember take pictures of the pancake breakfast and submit them to Beth Gracie.
- Teacher Appreciation: the holiday luncheon was successful and staff is appreciative of the early release treats, meals, and gift cards.

Committee Reports:

- Elisa Suarez: International Night will take place on 1/26 from 6-8pm in the gymnasium. We have 24 countries represented this year. This is a great night for families to experience the wonderful diversity represented at Meramec.
- Pancake Breakfast: JJ Flotken and Evan Waldman: 2/3 from 8:30-11:30 in the Clayton High School cafeteria. We will continue to have arts and crafts and face painting for everyone to enjoy as well as a DJ. There are 143 paper registrants thus far and we still need to count the online registrants. Jessica Lucas will promote the event on IG and FB.
- Black History Night: Leslie Wilson and Bella Keough; 2/27, 5:30-8pm. The auction artwork will not be able to get out in time for black history night and now we are brainstorming other possibilities in lieu of the community artwork. A "poster" walk illustrating "what does Black History Night mean to you?" is a viable option. We will add the poster walk to the informational flyer (Julia Griffey will create the flyer). Lisa Jackson Terry is available to help anyone with choreographing their dance. The night will include bread pudding to be distributed to the children, stilt walkers and drummers (5:45-6:15pm) for the event. The cost for including the stilt walkers and drummers is \$100 over budget. Laura Seelbach motions to approve increasing the budget for the 2017-2018 Black History Night. Stephanie Gross seconds the motions. The motion passes unanimously. Stephanie Gross suggests including the upcoming speaker series on diversity included on the informational flyer.
- Trivia Night: Pam Dacey the cost for Trivia Night is increasing however, we are confident we will make back the money. The expenses this year are \$1500 for the event space and we now incur a fee of \$250.00 for cleaning, \$1400 for the AV system,

and we are still looking for an emcee for the event. The revenue for this event includes raffle ticket sales (concert tickets, Arch orthodontics, Dottie's Flour Shop, Fozzie's Sandwich Imporium, and a few other sponsors). The suggested donation for sponsorship is \$250 and Pam is still looking for a few more sponsorships. All informational communications have been distributed including e-blast communications and social media posts.

- FFE: Jenny Abeles on behalf of Margie Beck: 1/20/18 \$13,315 is what we've raised thus far. Goal is \$15,000. Margie Beck will send out receipt emails to those who have donated.
- Helping Hands: The school district is going to do a promo for Fresh Fridays. Bridget sent out an email to communicate with your partner so there is variety with the food. Nurse Caren wants to do a fundraiser for kids in Haiti and we are aiming for March for the fundraiser.
- LMS/RRR: Jenny Abeles on behalf of Tina Murtha: Bobbi Williams is helping with Read, Right, Run this year because we have so many registrants.
- Room Parents: Jenny Abeles on behalf of Karen Geren/Kelly Rotskoff: We are approaching our last class party of the school year and party organizing reminders will start this week. We are looking to comply with the school wide smart snack list on a more consistent basis for the snacks at the parties. We are aiming for snacks that are tasty and in compliance.
- Treasurer's Report: Our FFE fundraising efforts has raised \$13,315 which is 89% of our goal. The Care fund has exceeded expectations. Pancake breakfast payments are up this year. Receipts are going out for donations.
- Communications: no news to report
- Spirit Wear report: report emailed: I sent Gerri Wade a note asking if they were able to attend and she was supposed to check with Steve, who was out of town at the time. I never heard back, so sent a follow up email. As far as I know, they don't have any more inventory than we had at Open House and those sizes weren't the most popular ones. We are also looking into make a custom t-shirt designed after the yearbook cover.
- Principal's Report: We have 376 students enrolled at Meramec and attendance is up and suspensions are low. We will continue to focus on our Responsive Classroom methods. Our next Parent/Principal Dialogue will feature Mike McQueen.
- Staff Requests: Mrs. Palmer presenting two St. Louis author books to the students. She is asking for a honorarium for the authors to come and do two presentations. Jessica Graetz motions to provide \$160 in honorarium funds for two authors to make presentations. Dottie seconds the motion. Motion passes.

Announcement: no announcements

Adjournment