

January Holy Trinity PTO Meeting

Date: Thursday, January 26, 2023

Time: 7:30-8:40

Attendees: ~10 attendees

Location: 4th Grade Classroom

Moderator: PTO President: Lindsey Hunt

Action Items:

- Anyone/Everyone:
 - o Have an idea for a future PTO meeting agenda item? Have any questions after reading these notes? Please contact Lindsey Hunt (Inhunt2014@gmail.com).
 - o Have a “wish list” item that would benefit the school and/or school community? Please contact Lindsey Hunt (Inhunt2014@gmail.com).
- Lindsey:
 - o *From December’s Meeting:* Ask Ashley and/or Heather: Can we redistribute extra funds to another PTO event if a PTO event doesn’t use all of its budget? What’s the process if we can?
 - For special volunteers (DJ) – is there anything we can do to thank them?
 - o Add DNO events to School Calendar (2/2 @ Panera / 3/22 @ Red Robin / April? @ Karam)
- Kari:
 - o Advertise volunteer needs via social outlets for Grandparent’s Day
- 6th Grade Room Mom:
 - o Reach out to 6th grade parents regarding volunteer help @ GP/Special Friend’s Day
- Anna:
 - o *From December’s Meeting:* Try to find out the cost of adding cover over playground – wish list item

Discussion:

- **Wine Tasting Event:** Katrina provided an update. The event will likely take place in the gym, sometime between Easter – Mother’s Day. While planning is underway details are still being worked out. The cost is TBD – possibly \$50/couple or \$30/person. There is a \$50 liquor license, some one-time event insurance to purchase, and some server opens. There was mention that a silent auction and/or wine bid activity might be fun to add to the event.
- **December Action Item Updates:**
 - o 2nd graders are not being forced to sit on the floor. There are enough desks for all students. The teacher has implemented a “flexible seating” policy in the classroom to give students choices about their sitting arrangement. It’s a research-based approach. If a student wants to be seated in a desk and currently aren’t, they need to ask and they will be given a desk.

- Fundraising for specific needs/wish list items: Historically there has been a lot of discussion with the school council but there hasn't been much scoping of efforts or cost analysis efforts. The PTO discussed next steps: 1) PTO come up top 5-10 wish list items & scope out costs/effort 2) Ashley/PTO work with Father Bill to narrow the list down 3) Present final list to school community to vote / set priority/goals.
 - Holy Trinity School is often not eligible for grants due to our religious affiliation and/or socioeconomic breakdown
 - Father Bill is engaged. He has been part of past fundraising projects.
 - Currently, he and Ashley are looking into video surveillance options @ entryways, parish houses, parking lots, etc. It will likely be a \$60-\$80k investment. This isn't something that would necessarily be funded by school. It might be funded by the parish.
 - Teachers Wishlist:
 - iPad refresh
 - Better sound system for cafeteria
 - Hardscape area between school & portable classrooms (mud pit) + create a covered pathway between the school & portables
- Budgets do not roll over from one school year to the next
- **Event Recaps:**
 - Mother & Son Event: It was a 45-minute magician/illusionist performance. His act was really cool. The performer usually doesn't perform for children but made an exception for our group since he was going to be in Portland for an event the following day. People enjoyed the event. No real planning issues. We were missing some funds but they have since come in. The event was on budget with the supplemental funds collected. Some 8th graders helped with clean-up and that was very nice & helpful.
 - Behavior issues with some children, parents didn't step-in to course correct behavior. There was discussion about whose role that should be – the parents, the event coordinators, another parent?
 - Recommendation: Send a thank you/apology note to the magician
 - Considerations for future events:
 - Have mothers & sons sit next to each other for sit-down events
 - Have more chairs so all kids have a chair and they aren't sitting up front next to each other
 - Have an event that is "active" and doesn't require kids to be quiet/sit still
 - Have a person appointed to control the audience if things get out-of-hand
 - Have an intermission for seated performances
 - Limit amount of sugar at the event
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Grandparents & Special Friends Day on 2/02: A plan is ready to go for February 2nd. It will be a traditional set-up where visitors will be given breakfast, enjoy some musical performances, and Ashley & Father Bill will meet with our guests.
 - Sheda & Ashley: Lead Planners

- 6th grade parents: Supplemental volunteer help
 - Order of events: 1) Breakfast in cafeteria, 2) visit classrooms, and 3) finish the morning @ Mass
 - Kids Eat: Muffins & Juice
 - Breakfast for our visitors: Provided by Karam (Pancake Breakfast) – thank you!
 - Volunteers:
 - 6th Grade room mom will reach out to 6th grade families to fill remaining volunteer spots. Help with serving, set-up, and clean-up needed
 - 8th graders support serving needs?
 - Kari to send out request for volunteers via social outlets
 - Dave Judy has volunteered to manage coffee table
 - RSVP: There is no need for anyone to RSVP
 - DNO (Dinners Night Out): Watch Monday Minute & social accounts for details.
 - February 2nd: Panera Bread – starts @ 4 PM
 - March 22nd: Red Robin
 - April: Karam
 - Tip: A lot of restaurant dates are booked. It is helpful to plan the full year of DNO's @ the start of the year.
- **Other Topics**:
- Santa Workshop made about \$2k. Those funds go back into buying items for next year's event.
 - We should find a way to recognize "super" volunteers. There are several within the school community.
 - Valentine's Party: Tina sent information out to room parents. Room parents should be reaching out to their classrooms. There is a \$75 budget per classroom.
 - The 2nd Middle School Dance has been announced. It is scheduled for February 24th. It will be hosted by St. John Fisher. There are no known HT volunteer needs at this time.
 - The new hot lunch seems to be a hit with the kids.
- **Next PTO Meeting**
- Currently set for Thursday, February 23rd
 - Follow-up on opens from January PTO meeting
 - Revisit past events
 - Discuss March & April upcoming events