

Minutes General Meeting 9/27/17

1. Welcome

2. Approval of Minutes -approved by concensus

3. Principal's Report:

Good things are happening! The most pressing item is the 6th grade transition. We estimate an enrollment next year of 225 in 6th and 7th grade. The temporary buildings will be used as the computer lab. Jeena has visited several elementary schools to talk about the transition. The new year is off to a good start with the new staff. Field trips: Manning won a grant to pay for the Solar decathalon (touring solar powered homes) 8th grade field trip in early October.

6th grade transition- An extra class will be added so students will have 3 electives and teachers will have 2 planning periods, one coinciding with another teacher in the respective department. The temporary buildings being used as computer labs will take care of students going outside by themselves and make the best and most equitable use of the outbuildings.

Jeena identified a need for more technology- one extra laptop to be attached to the smart board in each classroom. Four more Chromebook carts will be needed as well. Jeena has the goal of 1:1 devices for all students. Kim mentioned that we have \$12,000 that we can spend right now.

4. PTA Vice President Election: Christine Dempsey was elected unanimously. Congratulations Christine!

5. Spirit wear: Spiritwear is in. We sold about 50 pieces. They will be delivered in the next few days. Anita Claussen asked if we could consider selling Manning pencils- Cheri Cahill will look into this.

6. Facebook: Our current page is set up as a closed group. A public page would help communication with families and staff. Photos are okay as long as students are not named/ tagged. There is one student who must not appear in any photos. More than one administrator would be good. Kim Johnson, Cora Rice, and Catherine Provencal will act as administrators.

Math counts: Cheri Cahill leads school-wide competition, then regional (February), then state level and national level. Last year PTA sponsored our team after a short break because of funding through the math department. Currently 11 students are participating. Officially 10 students can compete- a team of 4 plus 6 individuals and substitutes are allowed. Last year one Manning student went to state. After the competition, the club could continue meeting. Registration is \$300 per 10-person team (early bird registration). Cheri asks if we can sponsor them. Anita says that enrichment can pay for the registration.

8. Committee reports

Chili Cook-off: Claire Cantwell has a sign-up live, which has few people signed up. Ideas for prizes- pieces made by students. Lisa (art) can fire them. Claire is looking for more help. Declan asked that Claire document what she does so that next year's chair has a good handle on it. Declan will be in charge of the sound system and Jeena will DJ. Discussion about how to best manage space between auction and cook-off. Parking space could be painted to designate. Other auction items will include 12 Lockers and 10 pick your teachers, plus front row seats for performances. Anita suggested a Design-your-own schedule- one per grade. The auction can utilize space just outside the cafeteria.

Communications: Deb Schein, parent of 7th grader, voiced that she feels that it is difficult to get involved. Eblast- Jeena is thinking there may be a better way to handle getting the information- maybe splitting eblasts for PTA (Tuesdays) and School (Fridays).

Teacher Appreciation: Catherine Provencal put together Qdoba for teacher prep days and Garbanzo's for Back to School. If dinner can be provided for both nights of conferences, that would help the teachers. PTA can provide a meal for the last early release day in April (Friday, April 27).

Continuation: Catherine will be in charge- can we split the 2 events and have 2 groups of parents (7th grade parents or NJHS for evening ceremony so that 8th grade parents can focus on the occasion)? Will discuss with Jeena and ask for a volunteer to take on this event

Reflections: Information is in the eblast. Kazan Clark has done an outstanding job. Can we clarify the deadline? [Deadline is Friday, October 27.](#)

Teen CERT: Declan hoping to implement the program pending insurance coverage by PTA as a sponsored program.

Treasurer's Report: Sales for Chili cookoff have been good.

Wish list: Budget has been approved for wish list item. Fax machine has been approved and will be ordered as part of the wish list.

Date of next meeting- move to Tuesday, October 17th because of the band and choir concert on October 18th.