
January 10, 2023 | Meeting called to order at 7:48am by [Amy O'Brien](#), PTSA President

In Attendance

See attendance log for list of attendees; total number in attendance was 18.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from previous PTSA meeting (12/7/2022) were approved by Katie Fogarty and seconded by Stephanie Walton.

Board

President: Amy O'Brien (amy.y.obrien1@gmail.com)

Co-Secretaries: Stephanie Walton steph.cave@gmail.com and Lindsay Washington veronicaleo@gmail.com

Treasurer: Crista Kuhn crista.kuhn@gmail.com

Budget

Update from Crista Kuhn (Treasurer): We currently have 107K in the account right now and are entering into 2023 in a strong financial position.

Principal's Report

Ron Salazar Update:

- Mr. Salazar provided an update about the DPS budget for next year
 - We are anticipating a 150K deficit for next year, which takes into account an expected 100K contribution from the PTSA
 - Ron would like to have the line item that presumes 100K from PTSA to be removed and will be working to do this
 - The budget is impacted by a loss of approximately 30K in stimulus funds and reduced Mill Levy funds
 - We are currently 1 FTE position over due to currently having an additional open SPED staff position
 - We would have 45-50K in reserve that will carry over by not filling this SPED position in addition to 20K of carryover funds that were not spent this year on staffing
 - If the budget for next year stays as is, Ron will likely have to eliminate one para position
 - Students who need SPED services are currently staffed appropriately
- Additional staffing/classroom updates:
 - We have an increase in numbers of gifted and talented students, which means additional support for these students will be important
 - ECE will go to 4.5 days next year (rather than 5) to allow more planning time for the teachers
 - Literacy teacher is currently split between specialized instruction and other responsibilities, but Ron wants to try and hire a full-time literacy teacher for 5th grade
- Ron will draft 3 budget proposals to take to CSC and staff before they come to the PTSA for review

*Volunteers to help with lunch and recess are desperately needed (currently Ron and some teachers are covering these shifts) We still need lunch assistance

- Support is particularly needed for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades

Questions:

- Parent asked about the 3 first grade classes and what that was going to look like going into 2 second grade classes
 - Ron shared that he believes there is merit in prioritizing trying to add an additional kindergarten classroom rather than classrooms for older grades as classroom numbers tend to drop in 4th and 5th grade
 - Second grade classrooms for next year will likely be around 29 students
 - Letters of intent went out to staff last week so Ron can get a sense of where teachers want to be in terms of their FTE and roles
- We could consider whether there is a need for volunteers with specialized skill sets who might be able to support students and the school

Committee Reports

Fundraising:

- **Let's get the ball rolling for 2023! GOAL \$150,000!**
 - Fundraising Committee formation?
 - Special Checks Day – identified people (grandparents, caregivers) come to the school and have a snack
 - We would love to have someone to take the lead on coordinating this event the week of February 13th
 - Fun Run – last year our goal was 30K (300 kids at \$100 a kid)
 - This year we could aim for 35K because our enrollment is a little higher
 - Date is set for May 5th, 2023
 - Carla is looking for volunteers to help with this year and people who would like to take the baton and lead this event next year
 - School Social Events planned for Spring (could possibly tie in fundraising opportunities):
 - School dance: we could possibly share materials with Carson (they had a disco theme last year); Amy will look into this option
 - We discussed the possibility of having a raffle or donation option at the dance – will revisit these options at our next PTSA meeting
 - We need to identify a date and talk to Hill about possibly using their space
- **Annual Fund/Colorado Gives Update/Dine-Outs (Crista Kuhn)**
 - Dine-outs are generally going very well; we will continue to identify more options throughout the rest of the year
 - Katie F. will speak to Katie Neff about pushing out another reminder regarding families
 - Amy O'Brien shared that Retrievr is a company that will come to pick up any old electronics and can give \$20 back to Steck for every appointment scheduled – we can discuss a possible timeline for sharing this option with families
 - We will continue to work on generating Ideas needed regarding messaging to the community about recurring monthly donations.
- **Scholastic Book Fair (Ramona Harris/Mackie):**
 - Ms. Mackie opted to take a combination of immediate profits and credits from the book fair sales
 - Official total update: No update yet

***Volunteers are currently most needed support for Fun Run and Special Checks Day**

Communications (Katie Neff): No updates

Room Parents (Ramona Harris):

- Move forward with printed weekly or monthly updates to be sent home in student folders regarding school happenings?
- Ramona will check in with teachers to make sure they have needed supplies as well as their wish lists and snack supply
- Revisiting the success of CheddarUp this year will be addressed in a future meeting

Teacher/Staff Appreciation (Stacie Loucks): Support efforts have focused on providing pizza/burritos at the next in-service day, providing food for St. Patrick’s Day and Cinco de Mayo

Additional Items

- Address the possibility of creating a sub-committee moving forward to better plan out communication around fundraising/giving.
 - Fundraising Transparency:
 - A beginning of the year communication (electronic and paper) breaking down the “asks” and donating “events” coming up throughout the year, allowing families to better plan their giving.
 - An end of the year communication (electronic and paper) breaking down all the fundraising success from the year.
 - Along with the fundraising breakdown it was suggested that we include information regarding what different levels of monetary value help contribute to our school (i.e. \$50 provides new supplies for 5 students, \$100 provides new books, \$1000 new technology...just examples).
- **New Families** event in the summer (PTSA ran function)

Announcements

None

Walk On Items

None

Upcoming Events

1/11 – Chipotle Dine-Out
 5/1-5/5 – Teacher Appreciation Week
 5/5 - Fun Run

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 1st @ 5:30-6:30pm - location TBD

Meeting was voted to be adjourned at 8:30am by [Amy O'Brien](#), PTSA President