

MINUTES  
PTSA 9/5/2018

**In Attendance:** Aimee Wellejus, Dennis Bryant, Kate Weber, Emily Brown, Kyle Tackett, Jim Gaskill, Dorothy Ray, Jennifer Stone, Jennie Dedmon, Marsha Gartner, Brennan O'Neill, Jacob Strous, Lesley Cross, Mara Sydnor

**Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.** by Lesley Cross.

**Guest Speakers:** Dr. Bowers & Treasurer Jeff McCuen:

Issues 9&10 will be decided upon November 6, 2018. The two issues on the ballot are:

1. A bond issue to repair all middle schools and rebuild Perry and Worthingway Middle Schools. Starting in 2021, all middle schools will include 6th-8th grades to accommodate the growing number of students enrolling in our schools and to provide the classroom space that is needed.

Worthington schools have less money than we had in 2012 to meet the needs of our students and 800 more students are expected to enroll in our schools in the next four years; more than projected.

If the bond fund is approved there will not be a need to create costly short-term solutions like classroom trailers. The funds would also be used to make improvements to other buildings, upgrade technology (our chromebooks need upgrading), add more staff, continue programs we offer to students and to purchase additional buses.

2. Passing of an operating levy will allow us to maintain current operations, keep up with reductions in state funding and preserve the

quality programs and services our community expects and deserves from our schools. (The operating levy will be used as needed)

**President's Report given by Lesley Cross:**

Still no Chair for concessions. Concessions bring in \$5,000 a year which funds our mini grants for teachers. Benefits: great way to meet other KMS parents and students can get hands-on work experience exchanging money and interacting with parents and students. Lesley is handling chairing this for volleyball now but hopes to have a chair for basketball season soon.

**VP Report- Aimee Wellejus & Dennis Bryant:**

The online auction will go live the end of October. American Girl, COSI and many local businesses donated. Great way to fill in the gap from the loss of concessions. A flyer will be put in teachers' mailboxes.

**Treasurer Report - Diane Smullen** - Presented by Lesley Cross as Diane was out of state. The budget was presented. Suggestions for having further checks & balances with the VPs reviewing reconciliation in the future. We have opened a square account for credit card processing. The budget for the 2017-18 year was audited in summer and voted upon at meeting. Passed.

**Secretary Report- Mara Sydnor** - Minutes from last meeting were passed out and voted upon. Passed.

**Principal's report- Mr. Gaskill:**

The staff retreat focus was on creating a culture of empathy and support. A survey was given to students regarding their view on whether or not they have a sense of belonging. The teachers and staff will be modeling the behavior they want to see from students.

A building plan is being put together where teachers will create opportunities for students to share their emotions in a safe, non judgemental environment.

A safety awareness discussion occurred last week. Level 2 lockdown and fire drills were practiced, so the students felt comfortable knowing what to do in case they need to be enacted. The first week on October a full-scale event will take place where students will practice an evacuation. Details are still in the works. Last year students were instructed what to do if someone comes into the building or their classrooms. More information about this discussion will be presented at the next PTSA meeting. KMS is following the Sandy Hook Promise -- Look, Act, Say Something. There will be a Say Something week where kids will watch videos to create awareness, given bracelets as a reminder, etc. The message and activities will continue throughout the year.

Mumkin fundraiser began August 31 and will end on September 17th. The revenue is used to purchase Chromebooks for the classrooms. Our goal is to reach \$5,000. New this year is the ability to pay online. Volunteers are needed to help load and unload the mumkins. Lesley Cross put together a sign up for this and the email will be sent out in the weekly newsletter.

### **Other Reports:**

Jacob Strauss, a senior at Thomas, is an Eagle Scout who is doing his senior project on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) will introduce elementary and middle school students to these areas of study to get students excited and inspired by STEM. The fair will be On October 11 from 6-8 in the KMS gym. There will be 3D printers, demonstrations and experiments for students to work on. Jacob suggested having a concession stand there and is asking for our help advertising this event to the community.

Brennan O'Neill, 7th and 8th grade social studies teacher will be leading extra curricular programs, such as dance, film, literature, visual arts, photography and dance. The theme is "Heroes Around Me". Students will compete at a local level, district level, state level and national level, but can only move to the next level if they win their competition. 1/31 there will be an awards ceremony at Kilbourne.

On September 11, Brennan's students watched a clip of the news on the day of the attacks. The students discussed the tragic event before and after the news clip and discussed the heroes and how our country has evolved since then.

On Veterans Day, Brennan will be bringing in veterans to talk with the students and do activities with them. Details to follow.

Kate Weber spoke- we are still down for PTSA memberships from prior years. This will be highlighted again in the newsletter, facebook and via emails to families. Membership is only \$10 and includes a directory.

Upcoming events:

Student council election is Friday, September 14.

School dance is October 5 from 7-9. Volunteers are needed.

Reflections Arts Program is going on now and entries due by 10/15/18 and can be turned into the office. This is a FREE program.

The Justice League, a student-led group will start soon. Date to be determined. Issues such as race and gender identity/equality will be addressed. The meetings will take place on Wednesdays and Fridays.

The debate club will meet on Tuesdays and Fridays at 8:00 a.m. Students can pick the topics to debate. It will not be a competition.

Cardinal Pride Day -- looking for ideas for next year, such as community service opportunities, connecting our students with police officers and fire fighters in our community. This will tie into the "Say Something" initiative. Opportunity to build trust in those who help in the time of need.

Ideas are welcome for Cardinal Flight Day.

We are still in the middle of the PTSA membership drive, but we are only 80% of where we were last year. Reinforce message that attending the meetings is not required.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 p.m.