

September 7, 2021 Meeting

Conducted via Zoom

Attendees: Marisa Johnson, Greg Garris, Tiena Miller, Amy Yenkin, Jacqueline Morse, Karen Steidle, Kimberly Pierce, Jenny Fuerst, Sarah Kuhnell, Juila Riga, Rich Pearson, Annina Parini, Lynsey Pearson, Mary Fauth, Kemal Aydin, Nicole Brennan, Mindy Go, Jaelith Taddeo, Katie Gregory, Angela Courtwright, Nina Parini, Nesibe (name unknown), Gretchen Dyer, unknown

Start 7:04 p.m., called to order 7:07 p.m.

- **Identification of slate of officers**

- Meet the Teacher and Honors Night: Chair Sheila Rupert
- Curriculum Liason Council: Chair Christy Bowen, Alternate Jaelith Taddeo
- 8th Grade Party: Co-Chairs Krista Calfee and Julie Campbell
- Membership: Chair Mindy Go
- PTA Council: Chair Nicole Brennan and Alternate Sarah Kuhnell
- Reflections: Chair Maria Anderson
- Co-Vice President/Fundraising: Gretchen Dyer
- Name-A-Seat: Chair Denise Yohe
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion: Chair Sarah Kuhnell, Co-Chair: Christy Bowen, Member Amy Yenkin
- Winter Dance: Co-Chairs Mary Fauth, Jacki Morse, and Kimberly Pierce
- Mental Health/Student Wellness: Co-Chairs Karen Steidle and Nina Parini, Member Shawnda Thompson
- Cafeteria Volunteer: Kim Scranton

- **Motion to approve officer slate:** Ms. Courtwright motion to approve, Kimberly Pierce seconded

- Thumbs up provided by attendees. No nays.

- **Budget changes**

- Student incentives: Discussed having student council develop characteristics that all grades could vote on to select students in each grade level that are examples of the characteristics. Students will be recognized each quarter. When met in August, Christy Bowen asked what is the different b/w PTSA and PTA- students. Great opportunity for students to become involved to be part of program. \$600 total for the group allotted.
- Mental health initiative: Quite a few parents signed up for committee. Will meet with committee and then present a plan to board. Already purchased

light covers (?) and wiggle schools for students at school. Will have more to share next meeting.

- Teacher/staff appreciation: increasing from \$400 - \$500. Appreciation week scheduled for May 2022.
- Winter dance committee budget: In past, this was more of a winter fun night with karaoke, cake walk, ring toss, etc. so it costs more than typical dance. Funded through a combination of donations and PTSA funds. Mr. Garris said \$500 should be plenty. Ms. Pierce asked for inventory of what is available in school.
- Mini-grant: doubling from \$1,000 - \$2,000 this year. Ms. Pearson created amazon wish list for items. This will be shared but waiting for info to be provided from teachers first. Once this is started, Ms. Pearson will share on FB and Mr. Garris can put in newsletter. This is separate from standard grants.
- Meet the teachers night went very well. Refreshments were all donated by parents. For honors event in May, considering catering at a cost of approximately \$250.
- D&I conference: adding line item for school wide event or additional plan that committee may offer. First meeting was well attended but not sure of numbers. Considering covering cost for interested students to attend the D&I conference, and perhaps transport via bus.
- **President Report** – Marisa Johnson
 - Joining School of Excellence program for NPTA. Nationally only around 200 schools have signed up. Ms. Johnson asked board to provide template information by end of September. All information is covered in one of google docs that was shared via email.
 - Only committee chair missing is concession. Ms. Johnson tried reaching out to prior chairs but didn't get a lot of feedback.
- **Vice President's Report-** Lynsey Pearson and Gretchen Dyer
 - Planning a 5K in November outside of school. Working with City to get route approved. Will be large fall fundraiser. Theme will be hot chocolate. Might conflict with Colonial Hills pancake breakfast. Hoping to schedule the event early so it does not conflict with other activities or traffic.
 - Restaurant give back nights will be scheduled throughout the year.

- Auction items – consider items that may be appropriate. This will be held in April. Ms. Pearson will start planning the auction in January.
- **Reflections-** Maria Anderson
 - Was not able to attend. Ms. Johnson reported that Ms. Anderson emailed Brandy at Ohio PTA and asked for additional information. Entries due in January. Theme will be “I will change the world by ...”
- **Committee reports**
 - **Membership** - Mindy Go
 - Recruited new members at cardinal flight and meet the teacher. Now have 137 members, 133 are families and 4 are faculty. Large portion of membership dues will stay with KMS PTSA. Additional amounts go to Ohio PTA to fund programs such as reflections, anti-bullying, etc. Ms. Parini asked if committee members can access the directory list. Ms. Go can provide the information for chairs to use. There may be a way to send out communication through MemberHub. It was suggested that this may be a benefit of membership to obtain more targeted information.
 - **Mental health** – Nina Parini
 - Met with two counselors at KMS. Lucky to have their expertise. Excited about new mental health and wellness committee. Key items discussed on ways PTSA can help them meet goals. The counselors are focused on the whole child.
 - Looking into nutrition and sleep and way this plays into anxiety and depression.
 - Considering yoga club before or after school. Local businesses will be interested in helping develop program. Would like to include those that may have transportation issues in coming to school early or staying after. Will reach out to businesses in area and neighborhoods underserved to help.
 - May create program for parents and interested in querying parents.
 - Discussed asking the athletic coaches to hold a practice dedicated to discussing mental health, best practices, dealing with pressures of performing, and good sportsmanship.
 - Considering providing resources about screen safety.
 - Committee will meet to flesh out these ideas and assigned projects.
- **Vote on budget to approve:** Ms. Parini moved, seconded by Ms. Dyer
 - Thumbs up provided by attendees. No nays
- **Principal’s Report-** Greg Garris
 - Expressed appreciation to PTSA for the support, and focuses on the PTSA’s efforts including mental health, teacher grants, etc.

- Sept. 19 will have community open house.
- 6th grade camp is coming up. Tradition for 6th grade to have outdoor experiential camp. This will transition to a day camp this year.
- **Vice-Principal's Report-** Tiena Miller
 - Worthington Task Force meeting scheduled for 9/8/21 at Perry Middle School to give the community the opportunity to ask questions about school improvement. Ms. Fuerst reported that this will be the only in person meeting.

Unfinished Business and New Business (open for Discussion)

- Ms. Parini asked whether there was a requirement for volunteer hours at middle school. Mr. Garris is not aware of any requirements.
- Ms. Miller reported taht Leadership Worthington is seeking mentors for students. Deadline coming up on September 17.

Motion to adjourn: Ms. Courtwright moved and Ms. Kuhnell seconded

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.