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**SYCAMORE RIDGE PTA**

**PTA Meeting 1/12/2023**

**Attendance:** Gregory Reade, Sara Lake, KB Chen, Megan Scanderbeg, Chelsea Moore, Kathy O’Neill, Sandy Tanaka

**President/Sara**

* Welcome/call to order
* Sara called meeting to order at 8:20am
* Approve December PTA Meeting minutes
  + Sandy motions, Kathy seconded, all approve

**Treasurer/Lou**

* Approval of Checks #3295-#3310.
  + Kathy motions, Gregory seconded, all approve
* Treasurers Report
  + Paypal money double counted in membership toolkit. We need to fix this issue as it is double counting money from Giving Campaign paypal donations.
  + We need to add more money to the staff meals budget next year. Sara and Chelsea met to go over the details of how many meals are desired and who will be provided a meal (ie teachers only or all staff)

**Committee Reports**

* Annual Giving Campaign Update (Sara / Sandy)
  + Pledge of Allegiance 1/11-3/17
    - Wondering how to handle parent requests. We’re keeping it as we decide the dates and deal with one off parent requests
  + Date Night 2/10 (NEW DATE)
    - 5:30 – 7:30. Pizza and a movie in the MUR.
    - Sara will bring pizza.
    - Sandy will send an invitation asking for RSVP
    - Kids can bring blankets
* Drama Club Update (Gregory)
  + 40 kids came to tryouts. There were three instructors from Trinity and seemed to be doing well. Got Lu’s daughter’s audition and forwarded it on.
  + Need to make it clear that this is a commitment that parents need to make.
  + Hoping we get a spreadsheet with all kids and then can start tracking who has paid.
  + Tech sign ups will come later. Will you accept all tech sign ups? Could we train two people for some roles and then have kids pick a performance? Let’s wait and see how many people sign up. Could even do help with props or others?
* Stallion Game Night (Sandy)
  + Date? – 3/17, 5/12
  + March is cold. Also still need to figure out when Open House will be, but could be 5/11.
  + World festival is March 30
  + Choosing March 17th. 6 – 7:30pm with Bingo. Will need help from board members. Agree to food collection again. Could have a carnival ticket prize.
  + Could think about doing a Stallion gear swap. Can collect items prior to that, wash them, and make them available at the game night.
* President’s Update
  + Stallion Garden
    - Garden is cleared out. First stage is complete! We are waiting for Shasta to move forward.
    - Ms. Cass is running a leadership group called ‘ambassadors’ and could help get a ribbon cutting ceremony set up.
    - Hope the project will be completed by mid-February.
    - Have a teacher interested in maintaining the three gardening troughs.
    - Asked for a showpiece area that can be rotated through. This would help add novelty over time.
  + Cultural Week – in school portion and evening with families.   
    ~~2/27-3/3 with Family Night 3/2~~  
    3/27-3/31 with Family night 3/30
    - 5:30 – 7:30 on 3/30 with first hour out on the blacktop by a board. Students and families will walk around with a passport. Second hour in MUR with ~6 performances, 10 min each. Can be dances, fashion show, etc. Could open back doors and let people watch from the back.
    - Chelsea is working on the school day piece. Thinking of using STEAM team to adapt an activity to reflect different cultures. Kids may also sign up to share something about their culture during morning announcements (song, poem, etc).
  + Book Fair – 3/27-3/31
    - Company is Literati
    - Looking for volunteer to lead this
    - Jennifer Goode was looking for an alternative to Scholastic. She feels Literati is a good option. Could use it to showcase books from around the world as it occurs during world festival week.
    - Wondering about a credit card option so that parents can upload money instead of using cash.
    - Would be nice to ask for a new volunteer to lead this. Managing the volunteers and then handling the money piece.
  + Staff Appreciation Week (April 24-28)
    - Sara got one volunteer interested in helping. Theme around sweet treats and candy that is close to Willy Wonka. Joshua’s Pest Control is sponsoring one of the lunches that week.
  + Field Day (6/1)
    - Sara would like the receipt from Master’s Sports. Waiting to hear back about dates.
* Update from Principal Moore
  + Sycamore Ridge was awarded an award: A California Distinguished School. Very nice honor. State analyzes data and gives the award based on two things: closing gaps and overall achievement. 5 Del Mar schools got it. ~20 in county of SD.
  + We’re in the process of drafting a new strategic plan. We have contracted with Batel to facilitate. Information is available on the district website. We are committed to listening to all voices: students, staff, families, and general community.
    - Starting with a ‘portrait of a learner’ and then develop a plan that implements a plan to get to that stage. Looking at how the world has changed, thinking of essential skills and mindset, and then moved towards a shared vision. After that, we get the portrait of learner that we want. Going to have a series of meetings in Feb and March to gather feedback. Then will draft plan and come back for feedback.
    - We’re in the preparation phase and have already met with all teachers and staff at each school in the district. Asking for what we value and what isn’t working.
    - Need to think carefully about how we are evaluating the success of the plan. Students are already high achieving, so test scores cannot be the only metric.
    - Launch will be in fall or winter next year.
    - There is a FAQ page.
    - How will this be communicated to parents? Via Sunday newsletter, survey, etc.
    - Design team meetings: 2/28 (5:30 – 8pm), 3/1, 3/8 from 5:30 – 7pm and 3/27. Likely at Ocean Air. Dinner will be provided. Ask for a commitment to all four meetings. Great opportunity to contribute to your child’s learning. Chelsea encourages a diverse group of parents from Sycamore to participate.
    - How long do you think plan will last? Maybe 5 years?
    - Want to make sure plan aligns well with Middle/high school district.
  + Great schools rate schools and Sycamore Ridge is listed as a 7/10. That seems low – others in district are a 9. Wondering why we are so low. Greatschools.org – shows up when searching for houses. Could be based on test scores within a zip code and we do have lower test scores than others in our zip code.
  + How should we celebrate this achievement? The Blue Ribbon award is a national award and involved a lot of work in the application. Our award is still big and should be marked. Hoping to celebrate with pep rallies, popsicles, etc. We can start advertising it. We will get a plaque in the office to honor this. We could put balloons and a banner on the day of the rally. 356 elementaries out of 9000 statewide were recognized.

Next Board Meeting:   
**Tuesday, February 7th 6-7:30pm Virtual**

**Meeting closes at 9:38am**

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