School of Technology and Arts I

Steering Committee Minutes

July 9th, 2019

Officers:

President: Doris Faucheux (P)

Vice President: Jillian Hugo (P)

Secretary:

Treasurer: Kerrie Moore (P)

Principal: Ben Burns (P)

Fundraising: Erika Cedergren (A) and Jillian Hugo (P)

Teachers: Maria Henry (A) and Mike Lawrence (P)

Yearbook: Leah Lachman (A) and Ashley Patros-Kader (A)

District Wide Parent Rep:

Volunteer Coordinator: Clarissa Grover (P)

Hamilton Bridge: Deborah Nerud (A)

Community Building: Judson Steinback (A)

1. Approve June Minutes
   1. Jillian!
2. Budget - Kerrie
   1. Kerrie went over our budget breakdown, reminding the teachers that they have $200 to spend next year. Several years ago, there were some families that gave large donations to the SSC which has given the committee a nice cushion financially. If spending is as predicted, we will break even next year and no longer have a cushion. As discussed after the meeting, Kerrie is going to look at our last 3 years and average the amounts made and spent so that we have a better idea of possible totals. We will reset our income/expense based on that average.
3. Fundraising - Jillian
   1. Jillian talked about plans for fundraising for next year. We are not planning to do the Fun Run as we had discussed. Instead we will look at what we are currently doing and try to capitalize on that. We are looking to change Chip Shoppe for Equal Exchange. Jillian explained how Box Tops has changed and is now trying to go digital. They have 2 collections per year, Nov. 1st and Apr. 1st, so she would do a collection on Oct. 25th and March 25th. Teachers were supportive of that.
   2. The idea was brought up again about the possibility of sending a letter home asking for a straight ask and explaining what the money went to. Everyone seemed to like this idea. (Could this be something that Sue sends home with the beginning of the school year stuff?)
   3. Scrip cards could be done more often, like every 6 weeks. Kerrie is willing to take it back if that is easier, but that might not be the best job for the treasurer. Clarissa is going to put this on the Volunteer Sheet. Clarissa suggested that Scrip Cards be better explained at Back-to-School Night.
   4. Dates for Fundraising 2019/2020
      1. All Glazed Up - Nov. 4th from 5-8 pm
      2. JavaVino Night Out - Feb. 22nd
      3. Skate-a-thon - March 6th or 13th - 1:30-3:30
   5. Teri suggested that we think about ways to utilize local vendors for a fundraising event.
   6. We talked about how to publicize what the funds are going for better, possibly by putting pictures on FB and letting people know that is what their funds are going towards. Also, be specific with each fundraiser about what the funds are going towards.
   7. Jamie brought up the importance of communication and suggested using a texting app to improve this.
4. Volunteers - Clarissa
   1. Clarissa passed out papers with explanations about a Parent Representative and asked teachers for their opinions. A concern was raised that often times, especially with younger kids, parents tend to be a distraction when they try to help in the classroom and that field trips tend to turn into social hour for parents. Mrs. Amman suggested that it would be nice to know different knowledge/talents that parents are willing to come and teach about. Clarissa asked that teachers email her a few ideas of specific units they will be focusing on next year so that she has that information to help the parents think about ways they might be able to help. Her email is [clarissaed@hotmail.com](mailto:clarissaed@hotmail.com). It was decided that there would be 1 Parent Rep. per grade level. The teachers can ask for help when they need it.
   2. Clarissa has made a list of all the events/programs where volunteers can be used.
5. In what ways were tools used in the classroom?
   1. Birdhouses, kites, frames and nail art were all done. It was brought up that one student in particular really connected when they were doing projects involving tools.
6. What are your opinions on technology in the classroom?
   1. This has been brought up several times by different parents. Parents wonder how often technology is being used. It would be nice to find a way to communicate this to the parents. Beth Mullen-Houser, Noah’s Mom is willing to conduct surveys among the parents regarding technology in the classroom.
7. Community Room - Where did it come from? How is it currently used?
   1. This seems to be a favorite of students and teachers alike. Clarissa wondered if there was any way the time could be extended. It seems that, due to specials, etc., extending Community Room would be difficult.
8. Back-to-School Night
   1. Bigger SSC Presence
      1. The Steering Committee is planning to set up informative “booths” down near the entrance so that we can explain what we do and why.
   2. Would it be possible to do a kindergarten walk through of lunch?
      1. Anna loved this idea and offered to make an explanation sheet to give out at Back-to-School Night. Doris will talk to Shannon to see if it would be possible to have the lunchroom set up for this event. The Moore kids will be in the lunchroom to guide students through the process.
   3. New (hopefully improved) online parent directory.
9. To look at for our next meeting - August
   1. Create Ad Hoc Committee to review Charter and suggest updates.
   2. Create Ad Hoc Committee to review the technology aspect of SOTA I.
   3. Review budget with Kerrie’s new averages.
   4. Using an app for communication purposes.