

Homes PTO Exec Board Zoom Meeting Friday, September 18, 2020, 9:45am

Welcome to Board members old and new

Treasurer report

- Update from Isa & Update on teacher Discretionary Spending
- Short year met goal due to Most field trips never took place
- We used funds before June 30th
- We may see teachers submitting late expenses
- Walk-A-Thon Donations are Optional
- 5th Grade Picnic last year spent more money
- Since we have 3years of reserves, we have agreed to use reserves to cover 5th Grade Picnic (CDSP guidelines \$30-35 per student)
- Courtney: Utilization of A to Z for the benefit of PTO - We can direct parents if they wish to donate make their donation through A to Z.
- Reminder for parents to link spending accounts to Holmes PTO so we get donations based on their normal purchases. Message and link should go out in H2H

Vice Chair report: update from Angela and Kristen

- Room parent list recap - Thanks to people who stepped up to be room parent
- Slate update - We got two volunteers for Garden and they are very enthusiastic
- Need to communicate to room parents that they will be more involved in getting communications out to families due to restrictions.

Fundraising

- Boon Supply - Catalog Shopping and 40% of proceeds would go to PTO. Key features - eco friendly and very nice quality gifts that are unique. They even have gift wrapping too, perfect for Holiday shopping.
- Supporting Local Businesses (Take out night ? – Discount Card ?) Discussion of whether Darien Families would use discount card.
- Darien Chamber of Commerce - Can we explore a partnership with them since they already have this set up with local businesses.
- Community Fund - Everyone was in favor of a designated Holmes Family Night where you would purchase a meal for your family from a participating restaurant and proceeds would go to PTO.

Current Happenings

- Spirit wear sales - Do we want to do this in place of enrichment? Keyboard covers were discussed but different grades have different size chromebooks, unless we do different size covers, but not practical.
- Directory - pending - deadline for printed directory is Friday, 9/25
- Family photo day - Sat 10/3 and Sun 10/4
- Walkathon update – new dates? - Week of October 12th
- Back to school night – new date? -
- Special board of Ed meeting recap

Old Business

- Teacher appreciation: luncheon, masks, lawn signs. Other ideas for Teacher Appreciation?

- Let's use social media to show how we appreciate our teachers, take a picture of mask purchased for teachers and children, the teachers and staff loved the home made signs we posted on the first day of school. GIFT CARDS, In-Door Games for the classroom were some other ideas of what to get for teacher appreciation. What about head microphones for teachers so students can hear them better?
- PTO purchases: picnic tables, bench, fans, basketball equipment, playground equipment, visor signs

Brainstorming session

- What Can PTO do for children this year? A few ideas to discuss
- Key Chains for all students? We were discussing maybe a Darien Keychain so it would have more longevity particularly for 5th graders moving up
- Trivia Night
- Movie Night - We all seem to be in favor of movie night. We can see if room parents would be open to having families pick up popcorn and candy if we left them in a convenient location outside their home. Tentative month to do this is January. We would purchase popcorn from cub scouts to support that organization.
- Virtual Book club - Was not discussed
- Town Wide Scavenger Hunt? Community Fund is doing a Town Scavenger Hunt called Mission Possible. Notice signs posted around town. Do we want to simulate this for Holmes?