

## Holmes PTO Exec Board Meeting Agenda March 8, 2024

1. Principal Update
  - Paula provided details and an overview of the updated timeline and construction plans for Holmes.
2. Co-Chair Update
  - The BOE budget was approved and is now going to Board of Finance for review. The overall sense is that BOF will make cuts and the budget will be sent back to the BOE to revise. This is an abnormal year and CDSP is encouraging parents to continue to be involved to help see the budget process through. The BOE's budget is in line with other similar districts, with the majority of the budget increase due to increases in teacher pay and health insurance costs. CDSP has asked for parents to attend the March 12 BOF public hearing to show parent representation. CDSP will prepare a couple speeches.
  - PTO is putting together a survey for staff to fill out regarding teacher appreciation, enrichment, etc.
3. Vice Chair Update
  - The nominating process continues to fill the PTO slate for next year. Vice chairs are open to suggestions and want to reach out to families who are new to Holmes that may want to be involved.
  - Room parent collections will be happening soon – finding a quiet week to send out reminder for year-end collection.
4. Treasurer Update
  - The PTO will be refilling the items for the Henry Farmer memorial.
  - Discussion around Holmer the Hawk refresh – PTO is reviewing options for sourcing a new costume and determining budget and if the purchase would be in or out of cap.
5. Enrichment Update
  - An Irish Step Dancing group will come in on Tuesday, March 12 for a brief performance
  - Author Dan Santant is visiting in April and book orders are live on Membership Toolkit. Enrichment Committee is working with Barrett Bookstore to fulfill orders. The committee is still determining if there will be an author's lunch.
  - Bash the Trash will come to Holmes in April around Earth Day.
6. Fundraising Update
  - Ticket sales for the spring cocktail party are now open and committee chairs are asking the PTO to help encourage parents to purchase their tickets. Silent Auction items are coming together – still looking for more items to feature. The

silent auction will also be online. Very low on wine pull donations – sourcing from local businesses and PTO families. Committee will create a flyer to include at the Paddle Night event on March 8.

#### 7. Special Education Update

- The 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade MMS transition discussion about articulation PPTs taking place this week.
- Kindergarten coffees will take place the week of April 22<sup>nd</sup>, information on summer services and the ESY program will go out week of April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Fairfield schools have a Diversity Day where kids can experience what children with different needs experience – for example, blindness, wheel chair accessibility, etc. Looking to see if this is something Holmes might want to consider for the future.
- Committee has reached out to the Ryan Martin Foundation to see if Ryan Martin can come to school for a presentation potentially in Fall 2024.

#### 8. DEI Update

- Movie Night will be pushed to the fall and rebranded as a Back to School Movie Night. Dr. Dadd will provide a short list of movies to select from.
- The committee would like to do a few smaller things for World Diversity Day on Tuesday, May 21. Also looking to organize a foodie dinner at Pesca restaurant in New Canaan for Sunday, May 19 at 6 pm.
- Would like to do a bulletin board for May focusing on welcoming and belonging, more to come.