

## PTO Meeting Agenda/Minutes - APPROVED at May Meeting

In attendance: Larissa Sano, Sara Schneidewind, Jen McNamara, Gayle Green, Kim Burton-Weisman, Bianca Humphries, Jamar Humphrey, Liz Batteh, Carly Ly, Brian Weisman, Bhuvana Matthew, Marguerite Dillard, Liz Loomis, Talisha Sutton

Summary: We discussed the Infrastructure milage. Principal Carter (Clague) came to talk about Clague and some of their new initiatives (School to Watch designation; competency approach to grading); Silent Auction raised \$36,000 gross, \$32,500 net (after costs) compared to \$25K from last year, c. \$2.5K is for cash for a cause.

1. Called to order @ 6:37 pm
2. Minutes - Reviewed previous meeting's minutes
  - a. Motion to approve minutes:Liz Batteh
  - b. Seconded: Marguerite Dillard
  - c. Vote: all "ayes" - approved
3. Principal Report - Mr. Humphry (Principal Cooper was absent)
  - a. Gave an overview of the sinking fund millage - see website for more information
  - b. To support the infrastructure of buildings
  - c. Millage usually takes two years for funding to come to fruition
  - d. Last millage was in 2013
  - e. 70% to infrastructure, such as repair core systems and infrastructure, restore lighting, flooring, ceilings, HVAC, roofing
  - f. Need expansion for all of the additional housing that is being built in ann arbor, e.g., NE sector of A2 will be getting 931 more housing units resulting in an estimated 642 new students in NE AAPS schools
  - g. Next year, Thurston, King, Mitchell, Burns Park will get new module units
  - h. King module unit, four classrooms and an office (temporary because we don't have definitive numbers about future enrollment)
  - i. King will have a young fives program next year
  - j. Module unit will be housed on area in back of cafeteria, with two bathrooms and an office, not connected to building, but will have a cover over it; and about 120 kids + teachers
  - k. This might help lower class size (but to be decided)
  - l. King will also be getting new playground equipment (yeah!) - c 60k budget for all elementary schools; Mr. Humphries will be working with vendor soon to identify possible units and locations on the playground
  - m. This millage is for ten years beginning in 2017 - 2027
  - n. Millage is based, in part, on estimates that repairs to Allen cost \$2 million, and that this is a likely necessary estimate for most elementary schools in the district.
  - o. See a2schools.org for all of the details!: there are also several informational meetings at Tappan (April 20), Clague (April 25), etc.
  - p. Election day is 02-May (and no school!)
4. Mr. Carter (Principal Clague) + Assistant Principal at Clague

- a. At Clague Home Page - see transition tab, which has information from Transition Event
  - b. This has information about transition for elementary schools
  - c. May 10th, King fifth graders will visit Clague to experience and learn about middle school experience
  - d. Vision for Clague is a diverse student body, reflected in staff, teachers, and students
  - e. Goal is to have a global-minded orientation
  - f. Clague is "School to Watch" designation - for schools that are aiming for academic excellence, for focus on developmental responsiveness, and for social equitability: in order to support emotional, physical, mental growth; Clague focuses on supporting students as they transition into teenage years;
  - g. Only seven schools in the state have "Schools to Watch" designation!
  - h. Clague principals will go to DC in June to participate in an event for Schools to Watch program
  - i. Also discussed importance of making sure that all students make good (appropriate) choices related to social media (idea of digital citizenship) - this means that teachers are working with students to help them understand how to be a good digital citizen
  - j. There is a handbook available to students and parents that gives an overview of Clague and transitions
  - k. Entering sixth graders will need a lock :) and, more importantly, should be able to use the lock
  - l. First month, staff work with sixth graders to help them acclimate to Clague (e.g., help with lockers, getting to know other students in advisory, etc.)
  - m. See website for more information [clague.a2schools.org](http://clague.a2schools.org)
  - n. A2 virtual - clague students can also take an additional course either first or last hour: for example, a different language (sign language, japanese, chinese, arabic, etc.)
5. Teacher Report - Mrs. Hagan
  6. Treasurer Report - Brian Weisman
    - a. Budget projections have improved
    - b. \$36,000 gross, \$32,500 net (after costs) compared to \$25K from last year
    - c. C. \$2.5K is for cash for a cause
    - d. Budget is now at a surplus, but which will likely be spent out with end of year budgeted spending....
    - e. This is great news! Because our revenue has aligned with our expenses
    - f. Book fair brought in 10K (both fairs); and we used some of this revenue to replenish books in reading room; book fairs did better than last year
    - g. Next month, Brian will update expenditures
  7. Committee Reports
    - a. AAPAC (Parent Advisory Council)- Rochelle Taylor Franklin
      - i. The next scheduled AAPAC meeting takes place on May 1st inside Tappan's Media Center. From 6 :15pm to 6:50pm parents can meet

with SISS team to discuss concerns related to their child's IEP or 504 plan. The General meeting takes place from 7pm to 9pm. The Last AAPAC Meeting discussed WISD roles and resources in AAPS.

- b. Academic Games-Vivian Lin
- c. Bagel Friday-Sara Schneidewind, Sara Zocher
  - i. Bagel Friday next week - April 28. May need extra help because we have 2 volunteers out of town - email if you can help (Bianca volunteered, so one more)
- d. Bingo Night - Jen McNamara
  - i. No Report
- e. Book Fairs-Tomomi Kumagai, Leslie Frey, Lisa Mitchell, Dana Habers
- f. Box Tops-Sara Robins
- g. By Laws Interpretation-Jamie Haberichter
- h. Communications/Enotes-Kim Burton-Weisman
  - i. According to MailChimp, the number of parents opening the eNotes hasn't changed since we've gone to every other week; in fact, it's very slightly down lately. It remains a \*very respectable\* number, however. Although more readership is always preferred. :-)
  - ii. Usually high 50% opening emails
- i. Community Action- Larissa Sano
  - i. No report - but suggestions are welcome
- j. Disability Awareness Coordinator-Pam McGuinty
- k. Family 5K- Talisha Sutton
- l. First Day Packets- Sarah Wentzloff, Helen Kaplan
- m. Grade Level Rep-K- Carly Ly
- n. Grade Level Rep-1<sup>st</sup>- Jen McNamara
- o. Grade Level Rep-2<sup>nd</sup>-Shikha Marwah
- p. Grade Level Rep-3<sup>rd</sup>- Shanti Eswaran
- q. Grade Level Rep-4<sup>th</sup>-Sharon Qi
- r. Grade Level Rep-5<sup>th</sup>- Anita Shelgikar
- s. Grocery Cards
- t. Harvest Moon- Carrie Bora, Liz Batteh
- u. Ice Cream Social- Bing Yang, Monica Jones
- v. International Night- Marguerite Dillard
- w. Landscaping- Marguerite Dillard
- x. Learning Garden-Sara Zocher, Becky Locke, Neha Shah
  - i. This weekend is their workday, April 23
- y. Math Club- Shikha Marwa Fred Korley
- z. Enotes and Outdoor Sign-Kim Burton-Weisman
  - i. Mrs Cooper would like "All Students are Welcomed Here!" on the sign indefinitely. I'll temporarily swap it out for other messages, however, such as parents who bought special messages during auction
- aa. PTO Thrift Shop Liaison-Sara Schneidewind

- bb. PTO Council Rep- Beth Grzelak-Lee
- cc. Science Olympiad- Karin Sletten-Farjo, Yong Miao
- dd. Silent Auction- Carrie Bora, Gayle Green
  - i. You can share your thoughts via email with organizers (remember, positive feedback is appreciated)!
- ee. SIT Rep- Tim Pinto
- ff. Space Camp - Neha Shah
- gg. Spirit Wear-Ben Ewy
- hh. Store Certificates
- ii. Student Directory-Sarah Wentzloff
- jj. Teacher Appreciation - Beth Grzelak-Lee, Marguerite Dillard
  - i. May 2-5 is teacher appreciation!
  - ii. This generally includes a lunch, breakfast, cards (from kids), bring flowers
- kk. Traffic & Safety - Chien -An Yuan
  - i. Nothing much new to report, really. Volunteers are always welcome!
- ll. Turkey Trot-Tim Pinto, Jamie Haberichter

#### 8. Old Business

- a. Bike-to-school day is May 10th; this will be in enotes, bike if you want to, plan for alternative parking at bike rack :)
- b. At ice cream social, 4th grade parents need to sell drinks/pizzas to fundraise for space camp 2018

#### 9. New Business

- a. We (Sara) will be sending out requests to sign on for PTO activities for next year; if you would like to continue in your current role, then be sure to let the PTO know. Also, consider if there are other activities you would like to help lead; finally, consider recruiting new volunteers (absolutely needed)
- b. Talisha will be helping with volunteer outreach (more parent participation); we have a lot of events and a lot of families, so we would love to see each family help with one event over the course of the year. It would be great to fill the volunteer spaces early, and have extra hands to help.
- c. Outreach, recruit more volunteers, we would love for everyone to help out
- d. Could we shift this to classroom (or grade-based) volunteering? Could the grade reps help coordinate (but problem is that we can't directly email parents, but is this a reasonable ask for teachers? To help distribute information?)
- e. Could we have sign-up at new family welcome or coffee on first day of school (coffee on the lawn, with a sign-up sheet to help with volunteering)
- f. Also noted that PTO material will not go out the first week; we will send this out second, third, or fourth week, and make sure the material is only PTO; and hopefully this will help us get parent attention and boost our volunteering rate
- g. Also could have an open house for first PTO meeting, and parents can circulate around the tables to learn more about the different activities, and sign up for volunteer slots

- h. We went back again to putting more of the effort on classrooms and classroom reps
  - i. For example, at the book fair, could we say “fourth grade” families are helping on the second day of the book fair (am shift), so parents in fourth grade need to chip in
  - j. By limiting it to two or three grade-level options and then “farm this out” to grades to help with, e.g., Harvest Moon, a given day of Book fair, Ice Cream social, Teacher appreciation (one grade per day)
  - k. Also proposed idea to make it more explicit in terms of amount of funding raised and how much benefit we get per kid (per kid break down - which is \$125/student);
  - l. Could also cut down on the events we support
10. Meeting Adjournment @ 8:15 pm
- a. Motion to adjourn: Jen McNamara
  - b. Seconded: Kim