

Davidson K-8 PTO Meeting: November 15, 2022

Location: via Zoom

Meeting called to order @ 7:00 PM

Board Members Present: Amanda Dudek, Amy Lavey, Andrea Oliver, Andy Puckett, Ashley Avidan, Beth Helfrich, Carly Schiano, Dawn Waldau, Ellen Loncz, Jamie Stamey, Jennifer Poulliotte, Jennifer Von Bremen, Julie Calarco, Kendall Whitley, Lauren Rasor, Shannon O'Geen

Guests: Eileen Graf and Principal Amanda Childress

Approval of October 18th PTO Meeting Minutes

Ashley motioned for the minutes to be approved. Beth seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Introduction and Updates from Principal Childress

Beth officially introduced Amanda Childress to the board as the new Principal for DK8.

Amanda provided hiring updates. Kendall Whitley was hired as the new lunch assistant; another assistant was also recommended for hire.

A Middle School Science and Social Studies teacher will start 12/8.

Mrs. Riddle resigned as the 1st grade teacher. Students will be dispersed to other classrooms.

Mrs. Bice got a new job (promotion). Her last day is 12/6.

Dean of Students position is open and administration has recommended a person who will bring experience. Administration has also recommended a new EC teacher. AP position has been posted. Mark Anderson is currently filling in as the interim Assistant Principal.

Amanda discussed how the district adopted a new platform for intervention tracking “Branching Minds Platform”. District also changed the percentage of students who qualify. It was originally 25% or below but has now been updated to 40% and below. Jen Smith’s class has been dispersed so she can help K-5 students/Tier 3 students. Lisa Sterling and Mr. Rancone will support the 6-8th grade Tier 3 middle school students.

A custodian resigned and we are now back down to 2 x people cleaning both buildings.

School Improvement Team Update from Eileen Graf

Eileen confirmed they are focused on 3 x topics to be led by a parent subcommittee. The first is to offer tutoring to the lower school students. The second effort focuses on the attempt to build more resilient middle school students. The third focus is on extending and building on what we can offer Spanish speaking families. Trying to understand their needs and support what they require.

Amanda reached out to community partners to establish those relationships.

Beth mentioned the casual pick-up soccer game that they are trying to schedule is for Spanish speaking students. She is working on securing a date and field.

Budget Report

Julie and Dawn provided an update on the budget through October 30th. (see attached)

There is a budget surplus for spirit wear and a profit of \$2,700 from Fall Fest.

PTO will continue to reassess budget for their specific areas and where we are after our fundraising events. January we will review budget and may update if needed.

Fundraising Update

Andrea reported that we are 2/3 of the way to our fundraising goal of 30k.

Mama's Pizza is having a dine out Thursday all-day.

A few other fundraisers happening soon are Adult Night Out, A&R Workshop and Whit's.

Dawn confirmed she will have Holiday Spirit wear available on pre-order.

Shannon confirmed the fundraising participation rate is 14%.

PTO will discuss with Admin if they have any big fundraising goals/needs for next year.

Lower School/Middle School Update

Jennifer provided an update for Middle School and confirmed the Tiger Tracker staff lead is in place. The "All A" Honor Roll Breakfast is scheduled for tomorrow morning in the media center. The National Junior Honor Society is underway and there will be an induction ceremony. Slight delay for the set-up of Student Council; the goal is to hold the elections in December.

Amy provided an update for Lower School. She discussed the holiday parties, planned staff collections and the updated gym. We confirmed the set-up of the DK8 Venmo for holiday collections and that all funds will be distributed equally. Mr. Rabb requested a quote for heat wrapping the bleachers. Shades were requested and provided for the MS windows.

Next Meeting

Beth confirmed the next meeting will be a General Meeting with performances by the choir and dance club. It is scheduled for December 13th @ 7pm.

PTO Room Expenses

Dawn discussed updating the PTO room. Shannon motioned to approve funding shelves, bins etc. Lauren seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. (see attached budget outline for this expense)

Photo Platform adoption

Ellen discussed the need for storage of DK8's digital photos and our adoption of the SmugMug platform.

Facility Expenses

Beth discussed the request for Tiger logos in the windows. She is waiting for a quote and will submit it to Slack for approval. Beth also mentioned that another staff member asked for shelves for the Tiger Den. We are waiting to see if admin approved this expense.

Approval of Additional Board Member

Beth had a new member to nominate, Caitlin Barnes, for VP of Academic Commitment. Kate motion for a vote and Andy seconded. The nomination was approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned @ 9:30pm.