

Sunset Ridge/Middlefork School PTO
Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 9am
Virtual Zoom PTO Minutes

Meeting Called to Order: Bridget Kennedy, 9:02am
Approval of minutes: Erica Marinello and Eva Vlad

President's Report:

Bridget Kennedy, PTO President

Thank you to everyone for coming to help with our vote. Last year, we approved a budget of \$2000 for the Family Fun Fair. We did not know if it would even run, at the time, as it has been canceled the past two years. We are planning on running it this year but there has been an increase in prices. We also used to share this cost with the park district and they no longer will contribute. We need to bring in a generator for powder. We would like to increase the budget by \$1500. Bridget made a motion to vote on the budget increase and it was passed. The Family Fun Fair will be on June 7th at Clarkson Park.

Please donate to the PTO's letter writing campaign if you haven't already. You can contribute via check or online donation.

We now have 4 people running the Winter Benefit.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help with dropoff at Middlefork. Jen Kaidaisch shared that they would like to extend this through the end of the year.

Reminder to summarize your board position so the transition to next year is easier.

Treasurer Report:

Yena Levinson, Treasurer

\$100, 901.85 in the bank.

We have raised \$10,500 in the fundraiser so far.

Committee Reports:

Hillary Bufalino, Parent Connections

Last month's meeting was on special education services. The presentation is posted online under Parent Connections. Next month's meeting on 3/15 we will discuss strategic planning.

Community Update:

Bill Lustig, Northfield Chief of Police

We arrested someone at Walgreens last Friday using a fake ID.

We had two car thefts two weeks ago.

If you see anything suspicious, call us.

Parents have reached out regarding cyber bullying. Kids are creating accounts using fake names. This is a problem. Parents need to be involved and we need to work as a team.

Administration Reports:

Dr. Ed Stange, District 29 Superintendent of Schools

Thank you to Chief Lustig for working with our kids on the topic of bullying.

Thank you for all your patience and support with our return to school plan updates. We are making progress in getting back to normal. Students and staff are adjusting well. We are trying to make year end activities back to normal.

We have been doing lots of interviewing for positions in the district.

Strategic Planning update: In March, we looked at a lot of data. We identified strengths and opportunities and will be figuring out our priorities.

Encourage all to take the Illinois 5Essentials Survey. We need 20% of our district to take the survey to get our data. Currently, only 10% have taken.

Jennifer Kiedaisch, Middlefork Principal

Thank you for the lunches during Random Act of Kindness Week.

Thank you to Kellie Johnson and Patricia Gainsburg for arranging our virtual author visits.

Thank you to our room parents for the Valentine's Day celebrations.

We are bringing back in-person chess club.

Spanish Club will be starting in the spring.

Second Trimester progress reports will be shared on 3/18 via ParentSquare.

The mask optional environment has been going well. We are grateful for the time we had to transition.

Dr. Ivy Sukenik, SRS Principal (not present)

Jen Kiedaisch shared on behalf of Ivy.

Thanks to the room parents for the Valentine's Day activities and treats.

Congrats to our robotics teams.

Band/choir/orchestra trip to Disney was a success.

8th grade photo retakes are Friday.

Performances for the school play, Wizard of Oz, will begin 5/12.

School Board Report

Abigayil Joseph

Suggested that Ed send out an independent communication reminding parents to fill out the 5Essentials survey. The school board uses this data.

Board meetings are next week.

Education committee meeting at 5:30pm will be talking about strategic planning and professional development.

Board meeting at 7pm will be discussing the possible calendar revision for April 4, the Back to School Task Force and more.

Virtual Zoom Meeting Adjourned: 9:39am

Minutes compiled by: Allison Gaetano, Secretary