

Hearst Elementary School PTA E-Board Mtg
September 4, 2019

Attendees: Christine Galano, Kerry Schwed, Deb Dasgupta, Christina Burnett, Kristine Inchausti, Ashley Boyle, Beth Prince, Jen Geoffroy

1) Back to School Night Logistics

- Child Care
 - Susan will arrange with Innis, Christine will ask Heather Rothman for Google form sign-up info.
- Schedule
 - 5:30-6:00 PTA meeting (gym)
 - 6:00-6:15 Principal Geoffroy and staff introductions (gym)
 - 6:30-7:00 Classroom Visit 1
 - 7:00-7:30 Classroom Visit 2
 - During Classroom Visits, info tables for inner core (1 table), volunteer committees and Owl Fund (1 table), enrichment vendors (2 tables), and gear sales (1 table) will be set up in the atrium
- PTA presentation will include Owl Fund graphic, preliminary fall community events, and pitches for room parent and other volunteers.

2) Owl Fund Update

- Elham Dehbozorgi and Hannah McDonald are heading the Owl Fund committee this year and will be making the Back to School Night presentation.
- Will again ask for \$750/child.
- Flyer will be edited to update graphics and some verbiage.
- Payment instructions will be on flyer and website.
- Deb will update website.
- Fall drive will again include a grade competition with a cupcake party and a visit from Screech (of the Nationals) to the winners (Tentatively planned for November 25).

3) Committees and Volunteer Opportunities

- Presentation and sign-up at Back to School Night
- Committee sign-ups include
 - i. Green Thumbs – led by Christina Burnett (2-3 people needed)
 - ii. Enrichment – led by Keri Sikich (2-3 people needed)
 - iii. Gear – led by Romesh Ratnesar and Ashley Boyle (2-3 people needed)
 - iv. Auction – in need of co-chairs (minimum of 2, additional volunteers unlimited)
 - 1. Christina provided Christine with a “want-ad” to be given to Jessica Frost for marketing help
- Other volunteers include
 - i. Amanda Provost – Community Dining fundraising and Open Houses
 - ii. Ben Pershing – E-cycle

1. E-cycle date TBD, to include gear and bake sale, book exchange, sports exchange, diaper bank, and more!

iii. Mary O'Neil – Screen on the Green

4) Website/Communications

- Deb to move the current Hearst website to a free platform that will have a nicer appearance. Plans to look for parent volunteers for graphic design help.

5) Gear Sales

- Ashley will be ordering a basic shirt for Back to School Night sales, and is looking to order sweatshirts with a vintage design.
- A special vintage shirt may be available only at the E-cycle event.
- Other things coming in the future include more Hearst/DC flag shirts, hats, and drawstring bags.

6) Birthday Parties

- Because of the disruptive nature and the potential for non-inclusiveness, student birthday parties were not allowed last year.
- Board discussed and approved resuming birthday parties.
- Board proposed that the birthday parties be held school-wide seasonally, with the first celebration held the afternoon of the Fall Festival (November 1).
- Beth and Ashley will seek staff input and coordinate with Anne.

7) Chorus Enrichment Costs

- Board discussed ways to help get funding for chorus enrichment in order to keep it free for students but to help mitigate the costs of managing such a large class.
- Jen will research available arts stipends for Ms. Baker through DCPS. It was noted that Mr. Coleman gets a type of stipend through DCPS for athletics.

8) Box Tops

- Ashley reported that there is a new way to do Box Top redemption electronically through an app that allows people to scan store receipts within 14 days of purchase. Updates to the school account occur immediately online.
- The Board members will download the app and test it out before introducing it to the Hearst community.

9) Treasury Updates

- Electronic checks for teacher reimbursements have started with Jen being the first to receive one.
- A fiscal year accounting report will be provided to the PTA in October.
- Susan and Kristine opened a 9-month CD worth \$50,000 and expect to earn approximately \$800 in interest.
- Teacher laptops were purchased at \$15,000 and have been delivered. Teachers will receive them once they have been registered.

- The PTA received \$476 from loyalty programs.
- Smart Boards are once again having issues. DCPS money will be used to fix first round of problems. Overhead projectors may be purchased as emergency back-ups.

10) 2019-2020 PTA Meetings

- Ashley is recruiting teachers to plan presentations at the monthly PTA meetings. Once she has all months filled, she will send the schedule to Christina, who will send out reminders to the teachers.
- October meeting will be held Monday, October 7 from 5:30-6:30. The Ward 3 Ed Net meeting will be held right after the PTA meeting.

11) Upcoming Events

- Mural by new art teacher, Ms. Dittamo
 - i. The mural will capture the spirit of the 36 countries represented by Hearst students.
 - ii. Funding is needed. The Board discussed having an International Night fundraiser.
- Hearst Talent Show by Ms. Beech and other staff
- Hearst Day at the GW-Mount Vernon Women's Soccer game
 - i. Up to 20 students will be allowed on field
 - ii. Sign-up will be first come-first served.