

# PTO Council Meeting

Nov 17, 2022

Noon- Admin Building

Present: Chris Tennill, Meredith Reese, Lili Schliesser, Suzy Oge, Tanya Hayden, Laura Pierson, Jenny Abeles, Deanna Palagallo, Lee Johnson, Lynn Courter, Kathryn Yorg, Stacy Siwak, Nisah Patel, Bryan Lawrence, Michelle Fohey, Ari the nutrition intern, Robin Weins, Nicole and Freyman, Madalyn Akins, Lily Scharff

Welcome and Introductions - Jenny Abeles - All present introduced themselves and each gave a quick update on the schools.

## Chartwells Report - Michelle Fohey

- Michelle shared the catering guide and a snack list. Chartwells can do catering in addition to breakfast and lunch. She needs at least two weeks for <20, a month is preferable for larger groups. Prices vary. Call Michelle for info. Box lunch is easiest during the school day. Michelle is open to suggestions as well.
  - Classroom Snacks
  - Staff Appreciation
  - Fundraisers
  - Meetings
  - Chartwells Area Food Truck
- Smart Snacks: [foodplanner.healthiergeneration.org/calculator](https://foodplanner.healthiergeneration.org/calculator)
- Lunch and Breakfast programs are compliant with the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program.

## District Update from the Superintendent - Dr. Nisha Patel

- Community in-person events are continuing to grow, and those are positive for our community.
- Parent-Teacher conferences went well with many parents back in-person.
- Last night was the community engagement forum and about 60-65 people came. A lot of feedback came from this event. Last year there were two community engagement events, and two things were put into place this year (i.e. Empowerment Nights). Mental wellness came up a lot last night. We focus on academic excellence, which we should, but we are also focusing on our kids' mental wellness.
- Board recently approved getting bids for building and field improvements.

## Board of Education Update - Stacy Siwak

- The Board is focused on getting updates around the strategic plan:
  - A Place for Everyone - update from Dr. Poole and (?)
    - Affinity groups for safe space for students, and Empowerment Groups for parents.

- Grow as Learners - Supt of teaching and learning - update on empowered learning - giving students a voice and a choice.
- Head and Heart - update from Dr. Weins on results from panorama surveys.
- School Board members are attending conferences - local and national.

#### All In Coalition - Lili Schliesser

- Missouri Student Survey 2022 - Please see report
- Coalition Meetings meet the 1st Tuesday of each month.
- All In is engaging with the community in many ways.
- Look for Listening Sessions and Parent Survey

#### Treasurer's Report - Tanya Hayden

- All the school PTO dues have been collected.
- All the schools have wrapped up their financials from last year, and it's been sent to the accountant.
- The new accounting procedures have been distributed to all the PTO presidents and treasurers for approval. We would approve them, but we don't have reps from Captain or Wydown, so we'll wait.
- We discussed the amount each school should keep in reserve. Traditionally, it's been enough to cover their yearly budget. Tanya suggests that each school keep between \$25,000-30,000. Any school that wants to discuss it more can talk to Tanya. If something catastrophic happens, what would your school want to keep doing? Use that idea of "core projects" as a basis for necessary reserve funds.

#### New Business Discussion - Jenny Abeles

1. Alcohol Policy - Jenny read the draft out loud. She'll send it out for review and we can vote next year.
2. PTO "Dues" vs Funds for Excellence - Should we all use the term "PTO Dues", and save "Funds for Excellence" for special projects. Could marketing "PTO Dues" make it easier for parents to understand and then contribute.
3. PTO Name Discussion - saved for next meeting
4. Meet and Greet - saved for next meeting
5. Presidents Meeting - saved for next meeting