

SMPO Meeting February 20, 2024

Attendees

Kim Fulbright
Alex Shepherd
Andrea Money Penny
Kristin Neidich
Erin Heitsch
Amy Malmstrom
Amy Hueneman
Kris Spurgeon
Meghan Covey
LeAnn Gardner
Jimmy Franxman
Kari Armbruster
LeAnn Gardner
Cybil Shepard
Beth Tracy Kaliski
Lisa Bowden
Karen Huneke

General Parents

Lee Allen
Diana Anderson
Ally Jones (Committee Head)
Amanda Ohlenkamp (Committee Head)
Robin Theiraut
Thomas Wood
Erin Galloway
iPhone 84??
Many parents present for the student council presentation

Call to Order 6:34pm

Motion to Approve Meeting minutes **Lee**
Seconded **Andrea**

Karen and Student Council

- Visited Camp Joy in Fall and would like 6th graders to go next fall for an overnight
- **Bella Michael** Student Council President
 - Explained her experience at Camp Joy and why next year's 6th grade cohort should have the same opportunity
 - Noted the importance of teachers and adult supervisors being seen as people and not just students

- **Second speaker**
 - Explained the components of Camp Joy and the Student Leadership Program she participated in
- **Speaker three**
 - Some of the challenges and adventures were fun and helped the kids work together
- **Speaker four and five**
 - Displayed photos and more explanation of activities
- **Speaker six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven,**
 - Shared direct quotes and feedback - bonding, strategy, brain power
- **Bella**
 - Wrapped up student presentation

Karen

- They have presented for LSDMC and ILT
- The September date is already chosen for a two full day experience
- The deposit is \$3500
- Busing costs
- Families that may not be able to pay
- The ask is to consider \$5K to cover costs this year
- Maybe families could sponsor others
- Someone asked what full cost is.
 - \$180 for every single sixth grader to have the opportunity to go (74 sixth graders next year)
- **Cybil**
 - We would really like this to be a targeted fundraiser for every year for all sixth graders to have this experience moving forward
- **Karen**
 - This was an experience prior to COVID for sixth graders that we would like to bring back
- **Cybil**
 - This year we were able to work with Kaitlyn and the YMCA and we can ask them again.
- **Karen**
 - Communication is really important to prepare the fifth grade families for next fall
- **Parent 1**
 - Feedback on the thoughtfulness of program and confident building that came from it
- **Parent 2**
 - The bonding to kick off the school year would be amazing

Amanda O

- Soccer program presentation
- FCC for a Sands Night
- Need to sell 150 tickets already at 100

- Can walk 11 kids on field with a player - 2 lottery, 2 bidders from carnival, 2 readathon winners
- Other ideas?
- We currently have 12 soccer teams

(Lots of chatter amongst selves)

Jimmy

- He wants a prime parking spot (LOL)

Amanda O

- All the soccer volunteers have done a tremendous job and put a ton of work in to make it happen.
- Maybe this can happen again in the Fall

Erin

- If we want to do a flier and raffle for Peter Pan for March 15, we can help with that

Ally

- She and Sam had their first meeting for Carnival and we could use some co chairs
- T-shirts - company chosen but oversee design and order sizes
- Amy isn't able to find volunteers so need big help with that as well
- Sponsorships - **Kari A** could help again and has all google drives needed and has good advice to share
- Parent mentioned a letter to share out to potential sponsors and maybe kids could design shirts - entry for \$1
- **Michelle Durban** is happy to help plan Carnival
- **Amanda O** likes the vendor they used for t-shirts
- **Ally**
 - Rather than split the pot we would like to get baskets together for raffles
- **Kim**
 - Mentioned that Amy does have a parent engagement coming up in March
- **Alex**
 - Past school had classroom themed baskets
- **Kari**
 - There are asks for playground upgrades
 - Concrete for gaga pit

Kim

Wrapped up carnival and began reports

REPORTS

Cybil: Principal's Report

- Thanks for the conference turnout

- Thanks for the pizza
- Thanks for Sandsational Shoutouts
- Black History Month brings daily lessons over intercom from classes and lots of hallway displays
- Midterms home
- ILT reviewing winter data and what it is really saying and why and what should next steps be
- Math Magicians are wrapping up on March 15
- Buddy Bench on the way - initiated by students
- Traffic flow is getting better but still seeing some kinks
- Walker door is better
- Family Reading Night this Thursday as well as conference night
 - 5:30-6:45
 - 7pm play from Children's Theater
 - Pizza truck and bake sale
 - Could still use some volunteers

Kim

- Readathon starts up the next day
- Need to get kids registered!

LeAnn: Communication and Technology

- Please send me a little bio of why you are on SMPO to help with recruiting next year

Erin: Fundraising

- Sarah was out today so hoping to get a flier out with event calendar with dine-to-donate, what's coming up soon, Oktoberfest sign up, Kroger Rewards encouragement for parents to do it
 - Dave made a signup sheet for Oktoberfest - offer first dibs to current committees and volunteers
 - Oktoberfest needs - 6 folks at a time, 4 hour shifts,
 - Can make a lot of money
 - Wear costumes and flair and make it so fun...for tips!
 - **Kari** wants to do the chicken dance (lol)
 - Need 80% sign up completed 2 months before the event
 - **Amanda O** will look into parking garages offering spots for volunteers
 - There is some training we will do prior
 - It is a new location - starts Thursday evening, then Friday begins at 10:30
- **Kim**
 - Thank you for all the new ideas and fundraising opportunities to Erin and Dave

Meghan: Enrichment Programs

- New programs are being offered that she wants to get filled to continue offerings
 - New Acting class in March
 - A Better babysitter

Kim

- Filling rudder roles is important and we all need to help

Jimmy

- Basketball ends this weekend
- Online spiritwear sale opening soon
- **Kari** wants a camp shirt (Jimmy get on that)

Beth: 3-6 Rep

- When we will be doing SMPO grants for teachers. I've had a few questions about it.
- **Kim**
 - Coming soon in April
- **Cybil**
 - April 8

Robyn T: 6-9 Rep

- In the past we had teacher appreciation week
- Recalling Dater ideas
- **Kim**
 - Student council led the charge last year and lots of food
- **Andrea**
 - Reminds that we have line for Teacher Appreciation that gets spread out throughout year
- **Robyn T** is encouraging door decorations

Kim

- Student council started the recycling program with recycle and reuse hub
- **Cybil**
 - They did a great job pushing out the info

Lisa: 9-12 Rep

- Trips to Green Acres coming up with Tracey at GA to do some new experiences
- They are planning Nature Center as well and looking forward to more outdoor experiences (HOORAY!)

Kari: LSDMC

- Trying to get transportation data
- She attended that long board meeting on budget
 - please reach out if you need more info

Kim

OLD BUSINESS

- CPS is working to make recommendations for **improvement**
- SMPO Curious meeting at Big Ashe and folks showed up to learn and chat
- **FIND OUT**: Is the next one the same time as skate party?
- Teacher reps - Sands Kindergarten dad is firefighter and would like to come chat to classes about the career

Commented [1]: @kim.fulbright@gmail.com I must not have finished this thought. apologies. Was it parking? _Assigned to kim.fulbright@gmail.com_

Kim

NEW

- Open to Camp Joy thoughts
- **LeAnn**
 - Can we say yes we will cover this but how do we get reimbursed?
- **Kari**
 - I would feel the most comfortable if we covered for all
- **Robyn T**
 - Offered ideas of how to work
- **Jimmy**
 - How do we fund this year and then be strategic for coming years?
- **Courtney**
 - Reminder that equity isn't fair but meant to meet families where they are. Allow families to pay what they can. It doesn't need to be the same across the board
- **Kari**
 - Making the point that we ask families for a lot of money
- **Kristin**
 - Communication is important to go out to fifth graders so they are not surprised as we are always asking for money
- **Jimmy**
 - Next month we should vote for the \$5k for sixth graders and revisit upcoming years later
- **Cybil**
 - Camp Joy gave some incorrect info and under sold the experience so they met them in the middle
 - \$3500 deposit brings cost to \$180
 - Next year will be higher
- **Kari**
 - What about the families in the middle? Let's be thoughtful of the families that may find the money but then have a hard month without that money
- **Cybil**
 - We hope to avoid this in future with early communication
- **Andrea**
 - Will look through budget to see how we can work with this
- **Jimmy**
 - Let's let families know we will find a way to cover it if they can't

- **Diana**
 - Be mindful of not making families uncomfortable
- **Cybil**
 - Overnights are an issue for some families. They will opt out of that experience.
- **Kim**
 - Stating that we will have a vote on the \$5K next month and look into ways to promote future fundraising
- **Erin**
 - Asked about restrictions as a non profit and what we can and can't do

Meeting Adjourned 8:16pm

Kristin motion to adjourn
Second **Jimmy**