

SMPO Meeting March 19, 2024

Attendees (+ for in favor of \$5000 for Camp Joy trip)

- Alex Shepherd
- Andrea Money Penny +
- Kristin Neidich +
- Erin Heitsch +
- Amy Malmstrom +
- Amy Hueneman +
- Kris Spurgeon +
- Meghan Covey +
- LeAnn Gardner +
- Jimmy Franxman +
- Kari Armbruster +
- Sarah Lord
- Beth Tracy Kaliski +
- Lisa Bowden
- Karen Huneke +
- Michelle Durban +
- Robin Theiraud +
- Dave Rolfes +
- Allyse Sonnega +
- Robyn Appino +

General Parents

- Lee Allen
- Diana Anderson
- Ally Jones (Carnival Committee Head)
- Samantha Trumble (Carnival Committee)
- Elyse Smith

Call to Order 6:32pm

Motion to Approve Meeting minutes **Jimmy**
Seconded **Kari**

OLD BUSINESS

Alex began discussion on traffic flow

Kari took over conversation as LSDMC discussed it. Asked that if you see a dangerous incident please call non dangerous police number. The number will be in the newsletter for parents.

Jimmy needed clarification on when to turn from middle lane and when to drive and turn around.

Sarah said traffic was assessed and it will take a while to get off the waiting list for a true study.

The new traffic guard was asked not to return so new one is being trained.
All agree that Marci is the BEST

Alex reminded that another Big Ash gathering is coming up April 2 to learn more about what the SMPO is and how to encourage others to join.

Andrea discussed the budget and how we could use it to support a sixth grade trip to Camp Joy.

We have a line item for school support \$2500 and \$1400 for SEP scholarships and supplies \$5000 is in community building - a little was used for trunk or treat and has been kept for the memory makers

Mini grant requests coming - can usually fund most or all by using other lines

To date income is at \$6000; readathon and carnival is still coming

Have had to say no to teachers already

Amy M asked about bus money and if we are good there as the prices went up

Andrea thinks we are going to be ok

\$8900 total is available from leftover funds

Lisa reminding us that 9-12 had to charge \$14 each for a "free" field trip

REMINDER FOR BUDGET SEASON:

Binder discussion - can we go another route?

Can student council give to SMPO to add to their line item to be more accessible

Read-A-Thon seems to have plateaued at \$35000

kim.fulbright@gmail.com and alex.shepherd526@gmail.com

Kari asked why student council line item and own fundraisers are not merged

Karen and Sarah

Reminding us that we need the deposit and alleviate costs for this year since it is a last minute ask and parents don't have time to save and prepare.

Moving forward for 6th grade, we can have a smaller ask with more preparation for future

Deposit is \$3500 - if SMPO could cover that maybe parents could help

Courtney

We are voting between money for the sixth grade trip or extra funds for the mini grant unless we get creative.

Lee asked about logistics and how it all looks

Amy M asked if we could use student council money to pay for Camp Joy-

Sarah said the money gets held up and not easily accessible

Jimmy asked if we could spend from savings

Commented [1]: @khuneke@hotmail.com is this correct?

Andrea said we have about \$19000 in savings but will only be replenished if we under spend this year

NEW BUSINESS

Courtney motioned to vote on using \$5000 of SMPO funds to pay for a sixth grade trip to Camp Joy this Spring

Kari second

Vote passed to use \$5000 for Camp Joy trip!

Will discuss where and how in future meeting

Ally and **Samantha** are in good shape for Carnival!

Amy H will look for volunteers during training

Ally mentioned after the following purchases, they are still under budget:

Prizes

Bounce

Petting zoo

Food trucks

Commented [2]: @alex.shepherd526@gmail.com if Ally and Samantha want to use that money in new, creative ideas for Carnival, that should be encouraged! _Assigned to alex.shepherd526@gmail.com_

Erin asked if 9-12 could have a booth to raise money for Camp Joy at carnival

Alex Reminder that there will be a silent auction and have the FCC walkout auction as an additional fundraising effort

Erin mentioned cotton candy is the biggest money maker at another carnival - easy and cheap to rent and sells like crazy

Amy M asked how to market to community
Signs, newsletter, family facebook pages, flyers,

Diana volunteers to pass out flyers to organization

Kari asked and we do need sponsors still

Ally will put in newsletter for parents to sponsor or find one

Sign up sheet for volunteers will go out soon

Going to see if the church across the street would be available for parking

REPORTS

Sarah and Principal's Report

Thank you for conference meal

Thank you for snack donations! Need to limit kids a bit

Thankful for all the staff acknowledgement

March is busy!

PD on March 4 with Kelly Wisecup and Robyn Appino with new technology

Improving equity for African American students - about a 40% gap between their test scores and white students

ILT is doing another unconscious bias training and cultural competency training and looking at how to properly support black and brown students

3 students working on the font for a buddy bench which will be under the umbrella on the big playground

We are 1 of 8 schools that are earning tiger stripes for minutes in transportation

Robyn and March Madness reading books and students writing - focus is on nonfiction to increase that score

Lots of presentations and parents coming in to see

So proud to see this community come together and think outside the box

Andrea and Budget

Teacher reps, please ask teachers to submit for their \$500 reimbursement

Lisa mentioned that we are holding on to money to plan for budget cuts

Current Balances

Savings:

Checking:

Commented [3]: @moneypenny.andrea@gmail.com
could you please fill in?
Assigned to moneypenny.andrea@gmail.com

Erin and **Dave** and Fundraising

Deweys was much better this month and Chipotle today!

The printed calendar was helpful for parents to know and plan around fundraising events

Octoberfest is ready for an early sign up with committees

Can we fundraise for a tangible purpose moving forward?

Oktoberfest should have a great return and we should say what it is for. This could help start the year off strong.

Streetside in fall vs Dug, so many more came for a purpose when they knew what the fundraiser was for

Backpack fliers could be made for carnival and Oktoberfest jointly

Read-a-Thon seems to have plateaued at about \$3600

Amy H and Volunteers

Meeting tomorrow for room reps so we will add carnival, field day, picnic/new family night on the playscape - any other things will need to get to her ASAP

Only have one rudder addition inquiry so far. Here is what is available:

Vice President

Business Manager in Training

Volunteer Coordinator

Technology

Need to publish nominations soon!

Election must happen at general parent meeting

Meghan and Enrichment Programs

Ninjas is canceled

Two activities coming up and won't need scholarship money

Jimmy and Athletics

Open gym for 5-6 graders on Thursdays
Will reach out to Leann to get that out
Spirit wear shop opening soon
Andrea will order flowers for Amanda O's brother funeral

Robyn T and 3-6 Report

She and Colleen are starting on a mini grant application involving Northern Kentucky Planetarium. They are hopeful for a planetarium in the school and free field trips
Suggests non-monetary appreciation for teachers- **Alex** is taking over teacher appreciation week

Karen and 6-9 Report

Student council is putting on 6th grade dance with dinner
Popcorn fundraiser coming up

Lisa and 9-12 Report

Spring trips to Green Acres coming up! All enjoying the outdoor education!
As a team they voted on future support
Camp Joy in question as they have some worries:
Make sure that they have fundraising, planning, supervision - it can only be successful with a ton of support - teachers have a lot of anxiety around this trip
Diana asked about how many parents have a purple badge and need to be encouraged to get them
Should have a fifth grade parent lead a Camp Joy Committee
Erin asks *should we have a community building chair that oversees memory makers to add to rudder position* (Discussion for next year - review bylaws on adding a new Rudder position alex.shepherd526@gmail.com)

Parent Issues:

Diana

diana_lee_@hotmail.com

CPS Budget cuts have her very concerned
With all curriculum books and notes online now, 9-12 losing computers could be a big deal
Thankful for the Sands Community for support when her daughter had meningitis and was hospitalized
Teachers did notice gaps after her illness and currently seeing neurologist - brain is getting tired and showing ADHD-like symptoms
Now needs laptop at home each night to finish her incomplete school work
How will students successfully share 1 laptop/2 or 3 students?
Kari mentions don't worry about buying because it is the subscriptions and and maintenance and upkeep
Diana wants answers and action

Alex suggests can 9-12 have the bulk of computers since lower grades need them less

Sarah will have a principal meeting Thursday to learn more

Robyn T reminds that Montessori curriculum is approved and the textbooks on computers aren't as critical as school invitations

Kari explains that ILT and LSDMC are also here to support school issues and encourages emails to the superintendent

Erin asked if prek tuition goes toward devices

Kari explained that no ESSR money filled that non-sharing need but now that it is gone, cuts have to be made and going back to sharing devices was decided on

Meeting Adjourned 8:19pm

Courtney motion to adjourn

Second **Jimmy**