**October 9, 2019**

**PTO Meeting Minutes**

**Attendance**: Mary Virginia Mandell, Kitty Brown, Kate Mather, Hill Weathers, Garland Darden, Amy Moore, Stephanie Brown, Suzanne Perkins, Ashley Seligson, Emily Heide

**Welcome-Mary Virginia Mandell**

Whistleblower Policy and Conflict of Interest form- passed around for signatures

Sportswear Sale-very successful, a lot more orders than the year prior

Spirit Night-Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night proceeds will go directly to school

Condolence letter written by Mary Virginia to MBE teacher whose child passed away

MBE Flags

-Quote for purchase of MBE flag for various events (like track meet): $164

Recycling Program

-MBE mom Kaira Catenacci has formed a recycling committee

-Kaira has spoken with head of lunchroom about partnership and Ashley McCombs is involved.

-Kate Mather mentioned a student recycling guild/club as a possibility

New Stationery

-Mary Virginia purchased new stationery for the PTO

Thank you notes that need to be written:

Coach Caine (music 90th Bday celebration)

Mary Catherine Pritchett and Shannon Cooley-90th Birthday Celebration

Tracy Strickland & Peyton Russell-sportswear sale

Lancer Hour this Friday on technology

**Secretary-Garland Darden**

Review of September Minutes

-Ashley S recommended a change to minutes to reflect formal approval of minutes from the previous month.

-Emily Heide made a motion to approve minutes with revision, Kitty seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

Grade Level Parties-representatives have been confirmed and are working on planning their first fall socials. Kindergarten mothers have already hosted their moms’ night. 6th Grade’s is this week.

**Finances-Kate Mather**

Budget update-handout distributed

Stephanie said a few membership dues may be coming in

Sportswear sales doubled from last year

Going forward will see net amount listed from sportswear sale (not meant to be a fundraiser)

PTO Council Insurance fee went up more than expected (less than $100)

90th Birthday Event stayed within budget

Lancer Hour Friday-budget will be presented and two by laws will be voted on

**Events-Ashley Seligson**

Boo Bash update-all communication has gone out (sign up genius emails to each class)

- a chair person for each activity at Boo Bash

- waiting on responses from room moms on spots not filled through sign up genius

-Kate Mather pointed out if parents are expected to attend with their younger children, communication should be sent.

-LCA Plan/ LCA announcements

-Waters are donated

-Face painting sponsor-Kevin Alexander OTM Dentistry

-Children will not put money in this year for the candy tower (change from last year). Each child will be given one raffle ticket, and teachers will be given two to distribute to students for acts of kindness.

-Need for stuffed animals (gently used)

-Carpool areas and front of school are drop off locations for stuffed animals

\*Veterans Day update

- Events falls under VP of Events, Emily Heide

-Emily will follow up on specifics

-Jamie Hill is ordering Veterans’ Day T-shirts by Friday, Oct 11th

**Technology -Stephanie Brown**

Sportwear—sold over $12,000 of sportswear

-Will follow up with pending orders (8 people who have not paid)

-Store had to be opened for those 8 orders to be processed

-Stephanie will follow up with the people who have not paid

Directory update

-Big thanks to Lindsey Druhan, Stephanie, and Mary Virginia who have worked to get a digital copy of directory!

-Shield denoted by Lancer Sponsors

**MB PTO Council update-Hill Weathers**

-Membership Toolkit-complaints to Board for Membership Toolkit being accessed/used for parent sources like invitations etc. across the MB school system. Hill stressed that MT cannot be used in this manner.

**Communications-Kitty Brown**

Village Living and OTMJ Journal Articles

-passed around article that ran in OTMJ (MBE’s 90th Birthday Celebration)

-Newspaper editor has bumped up submission date to 8th of the month

-thanked Stephanie and Suzanne for linking articles to online sources

**Special Guest-David Faulkner (Alabama State Representative for District 46)**

-Faulkner visits each of his schools in his district

-He is fighting for education

- $2500 check for MBE

-Gave funds to city to redo a water fountain at field behind MBE

-Has helped with playground equipment in past

-Kate Mather asked for source of funds:

State funds that have to be requested

Faulkner said education budget is best we’ve ever had; low unemployment in Alabama ; economy has done well so education budget (4% pay raise given to all education employees)

26 million more to PreK

Computer science state-wide bill that he passed mandates that CS classes will be taught in schools

Relayed Montgomery members are respectful and work together

Through MB City Schools Foundation, MBE received a grant.

Betsie Kennedy, MBE special education teacher, discussed how gift will be used at MBE.

Funds will be used for classroom furniture for an immersive classroom for special needs students where walls are touch sensitive and part of the floor has technology

Technology has been paid for and is fully installed. Monitors are up, and the computer is ordered. MBE will be piloting the program—and if successful, other schools could adopt it.

Kennedy said the immersive classroom is a cool way to make learning real for students who may not be able to attend fieldtrips etc.

Furniture for the classroom is expensive and they are working on that part of the classroom. Faulkner’s $2500 check will go towards this project, MBE’s immersive classroom.

President Mary Virginia Mandell thanked Faulkner for all the work he’s done in our schools.

The meeting was closed and the next PTO Board Meeting is November 6th.