

ROYAL PRIDE PTO MEETING

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 2022

ATTENDEES:

Charron Wright
Becky Gerig
Rachael Barry
Mindy Henry
Star Untersee
Rachel Anderson
Stacey Brown

Mrs. Collins
Kristin Corbitt
Mindy Daugherty
Sneha Shah
Abby Howe
Amber Garcia
Jen Low

The meeting was called to order at 9:09am.

Introductions

All PTO documents and information are on the school website.

Mindy Daugherty motioned to approve the May 2022 meeting minutes, Charron Wright seconded the motion.

Charron talked about Royal Pride PTO's role to new attendees.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Rachel Anderson-

Checking account has \$74,097.12 and savings has \$56, 219.81. Income is made through concessions, selling school planners, community rewards (Kroger and Amazon Smile) and direct donations. Explained payouts for concessions including product expenses, salary, and booster club payout for working games.

Direct donations at HSE Registration day have progressively decreased each year, however, donations via cheddar up during Staff Appreciation online requests have offset this. This year, on the budget, we separated Staff Appreciation donations from the allotted budget so we can track the trend of donations. Increased Staff Appreciation budget to \$14,000. Discussed ways to increase awareness of PTO and need for donations, including Stacey Brown's idea of having PTO presence at "Before the Bell" event next year and maybe using a QR code to link to donations/information. A parent recommended a Fall no sell fundraiser promoted in the HSE newsletter. Perhaps basic PTO information like our meeting dates, volunteer opportunities, welcome letter, etc. can be shared via Parent Square/Weekly Roar.

PTO funds or assists with: teacher requisitions/grants, gifts to HSE (whole school improvements/initiatives), HSE Foundation donation for Game Day fundraiser, Royal Rumble, Staff Appreciation, SAT snacks, beautification of the school grounds, and more.

Question of why there is so much money in savings. Charron explained that teacher requisitions are usually not sought out by the majority of the staff. Discussion of ways to promote to teachers.

\$15,000 is the goal to carry over to start a new school year. Purchases need to be made early in the school year to prepare the concession stands and we host a big Welcome Back Breakfast for the staff the Monday before school starts.

Concern by Rachael Barry that fans will not purchase as much from concession stands as last year due to gas and food cost increases.

Gifts to HSE is \$9,000. Beautification was increased from \$2,000 to \$3,000. Charron reminded the Assistant Principals of \$3500 in the budget for staff development. SAT snacks for Juniors is now part of the budget. Budget approval motioned by Charron Wright and seconded by Sneha Shah.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Mr. Simmons was unable to attend due to another meeting. Stacey Brown reported that despite staff and admin changes, the start to the school year has been smooth. There are 7 new teachers. All teacher positions have been filled. There is one counselor position open. She explained who the new Administrators are and some of their roles/responsibilities. Mr. Reggie Simmons is the new Principal, Mrs. Stacey Brown is one of the Asst. Principals, Mrs. Erika Collins is one of the new Asst. Principals and Ms. Paige Vinson is the newly hired Asst. Principal who will take on Doug Harter's former role and will have responsibility for the building/facilities. Mrs. Karen Bush is new Director of College and Career Counseling, taking over for Mrs. Herndon who retired at the end of the last school year.

Mrs. Collins and Naomi Jackson will be handling Staff SAGE Awards.

Mrs. Collins and Mrs. Brown will be the staff sponsors of Blue Crew.

The online list of clubs should be updated with this year's club listing and staff sponsors.

Tuesday and Thursday of next week will be a Club Fair for the students.

There are 70 clubs at HSE, 50 will be represented at the club fair.

They have received positive feedback from staff about the culture of the school right now with moving from having to be reactive, due to covid, to proactive.

Suggestion from a parent to have Royal Rumble before HSE Registration so that the Freshman know where they are going when they walk their schedules.

There are currently 3,448 students enrolled at HSE. 818 Freshman, 899 Sophomores, 851 Juniors and 879 Seniors. These numbers are, of course, somewhat fluid.

Pathways has been moved to 8th period, which is good. Release time will open up Aug 22, however, all students are required to report to 8th Period prior to being released. Freshman are required to be in the building during Pathways for all of 1st semester.

CONCESSIONS:

Rachael Barry - Concession stands are prepared and ready and equipment is checked. The ice machine in Old Football breaks frequently due to the high temperatures. There needs to be an exhaust fan added to the storage room.

PLANNERS:

Charron Wright- Likely not going to sell them next year. Every year we sell less. Becky Gerig started discussing with Mrs. Alano an app to possibly replace the planners that her class has been working on. A parent mentioned that Parent Square has a calendar that can be synced.

STAFF APPRECIATION:

Becky Gerig - Breakfast on Aug 1 went well. The amount served was reduced and there was still quite a bit of food left over. Notes were taken to make sure the right amount of food will be ordered for next year. About \$1,200 was spent on the Welcome Back Breakfast. Plan for the rest of the year is pending Mr. Simmons' input.

NEW BUSINESS:

Requisitions

Charron Wright - Athletics has already purchased a new mascot costume because the old one is broken (the mouth won't stay open and that is how you see out of the costume) and worn. Asking PTO to pay 1/3 of the cost. Royals Varsity Club and Athletics will cover the other 2/3. The cost is estimated to be around \$665. We approved paying for 1/3 of the costume.

There is also a request to purchase from the Media Center/Amy Mudd to order book holders and a Demco replacement for \$1,000.99. We have a line item in our budget for \$1,000 for the Media Center. We agreed to pay for this request.

BEAUTIFICATION:

Sneha Shah and Mindy Daugherty - Requested to spruce up the athletic entrance. Replaced pots as well as 2 at the CCA. The trash cans need to be repainted. Working with Kami Laux to get the large boulders (spirit rocks) painted. They are supposed to be painted by students/student groups, but need to get the process started.

SAC REPORT:

See Charron Wright's notes from the May 17th meeting (attached).

OLD BUSINESS:

PTO Board for 2022-2023:

- President - Charron Wright
- Secretary - Becky Gerig
- Treasurer - Rachel Anderson

Committee Chairs:

- Concessions - Rachael Barry
- Staff Appreciation - Becky Gerig, Gina Shipley, Christy Folkner, Christine Constantine
- Beautification - Mindy Daugherty and Sneha Shah
- Planner - Charron Wright

The Band requisition was paid from our 2021-2022 budget.

2022-2023 PTO Meeting Dates:

August 12, 2022
September 16, 2022
October 7, 2022
November 18, 2022
December 16, 2022
January 13, 2023
February 10, 2023
March 10, 2023
April 14, 2023
May 12, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 11:30am.

SAC Meeting Notes May 17, 2022

Dr. Stokes introduced Jimmy Lakes, COO

Referendum Update - Katy Dowling, CFO

There are 3 types of referendums:

- Operating
- School Safety
- Debt

HSE will be running an Operating referendum in 2023. It is still undecided if the referendum will be on the ballot in May or November of 2023. 6-8 months prior to the referendum showing up on the ballot, the PAC (political action committee) will be going strong.

In 2016, when the last referendum was run, these were the selling points of that referendum:

- decreased class sizes
- retain/recruit quality teachers
- expand programming in high ability
- language special programming

The starting salary at HSE is higher than the starting salary at Carmel, but Carmel's top pay on their pay scale is higher than ours.

The average cost of a teacher is \$100,000/year with benefits.

2023 referendum ballot language - contains the word "increased" 4 times. This language is mandated by the state. The referendum rate will be the same as it is now. It is technically a renewal since the rate is the same, but the wording will say "increased" throughout the question on the ballot.

Our current referendum is worth \$25M to our corporation, which is roughly 250 teacher salaries.

7 of the 9 referendums that were run in May passed. This is good news with the new state-mandated language for referendum questions.

Referendum renewals are now for 8 years, not 7 years as they were the last time we ran a referendum.

HSE is the 3rd lowest funded per pupil in the state. We are currently funded below the average rate. If we were funded at the average rate, we would receive an additional \$13.4M as a district.

Next steps...

- potentially hire a referendum consultant
- internal referendum team (Dr. Stokes, CFO, Asst. Superintendents)
- Political Action Committee
- sharing our story
- listening tours, similar to what Dr. Bourff did in 2016

How You Can Help...

- become social media soldiers
- become a community event rep
- door-to-door canvassing
- yard signs
- fundraising

Demographic Study

- the growth in our district is static/flat
- US demographics show a decrease of one million people in the 0-18 age group
- we typically lose about 300 students per year due to families moving, kids choosing to go to a different school
- 150 students per year are lost at each high school due to “big high school syndrome”, variety of reasons
- ~290 homes are constructed in our area each year
- we have close to 1800 students graduating this year
- there are currently 1400 students in the kindergarten class

Sharing Positive News from Admin - Dr. Kegley

There are two new programs in the district:

- Agri Park - 2nd grade
- Maker Playground at Hub & Spoke - 5th grade

Retired people are volunteering at the Maker Playground at Hub & Spoke. Having multi-generational volunteers has been great.

Next year the district will implement the last piece of the Lilly Grant we received several years ago. The grant should have expired last year, but Lilly approved a one-year extension due to Covid. Buildings will advertise opportunities for parents to get involved.

Raising HSE Podcasts can be found on Spotify. The most recent podcast focuses on mental health.

Back to School Event

- will be held in the Nickel Plate area
- July 30th 4-6pm
- info about each school will be available
- want to establish a personal connection
- food trucks, face painting
- want a similar experience for all the schools, the district will be laying out parameters for each school

Miscellaneous

Bounce Houses - "Bouncing" is not allowed; other inflatables may be permitted. There was a class-action lawsuit in another state pertaining to bounce houses and Liberty Mutual will not insure the use of bounce houses in our district.