

## **MBS PTO Meeting – October 6, 2011**

Present: Tiera Porter, Missy Roberge, Jane Ripley-Blin, Julie Paris, Amy Siegel, Eileen Moore, Brian Hunt, Nini Fenton, Mary Small, Deb Coryer, Meghan Mead, Astrid Lagne, Lisa (guest), Susan Manion, Carolyn Millham

### **Treasurer Report (Mary):**

Starting Balance: \$10,755.46

Expenses: Pd. \$4000 field trips (20@ \$200)  
Pd. \$135 – Odyssey start up costs  
Pd. \$80 – August and September – Childcare for PTO meetings  
Pd. \$570.64 – MBS Tshirt order  
Additional Payments  
Credit (\$11.71) – Amazon Credit (6%)

Current Balance: \$5544.95

### **Fall Fundraiser – Genevieve Sales:**

- Flat donations: \$315 – in addition to fundraiser sales – current tally: \$13655
- PTO will receive ~50% profit of total sales
- Sales increase of 15% over last school year
- Additional orders pending (due October 7<sup>th</sup>)
- Final numbers will be in next week
- We will encourage volunteers for distribution\* via the PTO newsletter and/or will further discussion at next PTO meeting  
\*distribution slated on or around November 16<sup>th</sup>

### **Additional Notes:**

- It was suggested we rally for waived shipping fees our next go 'round if orders are placed online and ship to school with all other orders.
- It was suggested we have a kickoff to encourage child engagement next year. Carolyn notes that bringing the vendor in might create risk for the vendor to push prizes
- It was suggested we consider perhaps that the vendor reimburse us the cost of prizes, in lieu of prize distribution to kids, and/or consider school supplied prizes, such as Osprey gear
- Also suggested was that we consider a more contribution oriented approach/vendor (i.e. % donated to Smile Train)
- It was suggested that we consider a pep rally next year to leverage work/support of PTO for fundraiser kickoff (similar to playground kick-off)

## **Yearbook (Susan):**

Susan met with Jostens and Balfour reps to review yearbook offerings/services available for MBS this year. After research and discussion, Susan suggested to the PTO that we pursue Balfour. PTO was in agreement.

- Offering is primarily similar to Jostens (tools, overall book, support), however cost was less\* (\*price may vary based on quantity ordered):

Jostens - \$14.25 per book

Balfour - \$10.85 per book

- Balfour also includes bar/scan code on yearbook for smartphone, so we can upload up to 2 minutes of video via mobile device.
- Volunteers interested in assisting with yearbook can reach out to Susan directly at: [smanionp@gmail.com](mailto:smanionp@gmail.com)
- Discussion occurred regarding the yearbook proof process, in particular children that can't be photographed. It was noted that child omissions will be caught during proof cycle – teachers have lists of omissions and can be primary contacts. Jeanne Racicot can be available to field additional questions, as well.

It was noted that we have excess yearbooks from last year. Let's keep this in mind and seek out opportunities to sell them (perhaps at a discount) at upcoming school events.

## **Monster Mash (Melissa):**

- Committee meeting was held and was well attended.
- Initial ask of PTO is for a loan to cover foreseen expenses.
- Melissa notes that many donations to date have been received, and noted loan will cover remaining expenses.
- Discussion surrounding pizza purchase occurred and Three Brothers was highly recommended by Brian, as they've been helpful to MBS activities in the past.
- Melissa looking into additional activities and associated expenses.
- Expected net gain from event are estimated at ~\$470 (\$810 estimated income less \$341 estimated expenses).
- Mary notes that last year – net \$225 (primarily bake sale only).
- Additional volunteers are needed and can contact Missy directly at: [mis\\_roberge@yahoo.com](mailto:mis_roberge@yahoo.com).
- Next meeting currently scheduled for October 10<sup>th</sup> may be rescheduled due to conflict.
- PTO collectively approved reasonable loan in support of event expenses.

### **Odyssey of the Mind (Julie Paris):**

- Julie notes that turnout for informational meeting held that was held on Tuesday was relatively low, and few returning families came to meeting.
- Engagement will be better determined next Tuesday.
- It was agreed that an Odyssey Meeting call out be put on the MBS homepage.
- Additional updates to be held at next PTO meeting.

### **Garden (Jane):**

- Jane notes our garden continues to grow!
- Frost covers were added to late harvested items to protect them.
- Committee is planning a Harvest Dinner, scheduled for next Monday to thank the volunteers and families that helped out. Food from the garden will be featured at the dinner.
- Jane asked for PTO support of \$~250 come Springtime to cover garden costs, such as soil, compost, seeds and transplants. This amount was approved by the PTO.
- Deb Coryer noted they have excess compost, if needed, when the time comes.
- Carolyn notes it's been amazing to see the garden offerings in the café, and encourages child engagement and excitement through announcements.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> graders are working on the garden art panels, and George Trieb and Rick Johnson paid a visit in support of the initiative.
- School district support has been key to the ongoing success and excitement of the garden.
- Discussion surrounding ideas for Winter storage for garden furniture occurred, some ideas are being discussed.

### **Afterschool Programs (Lisa):**

- Lisa spoke to an afterschool, nature focused, program – From the Ground Up.
- Program will cover soil, plants, atmosphere, space.
- Program deliverable can be flexible from a timing perspective, however 6 week span was discussed (1x per week).
- Noted program will span 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and be sized for ~12 – 15 children.
- Lisa notes she may need a volunteer to help and Brian suggested she reach out to Bob Hall (Guidance) at the high school, as Seniors may be interested as part of their project deliverables.
- \$10 suggested sign up for children, funds to go to Lisa.
- PTO approved suggested afterschool program.
- Tiera noted it can follow the same format as the Lego afterschool club and we can leverage the same sign up process as that.
- Tiera will research additional afterschool programs, such as Circus Smirkus and bring ideas back to the PTO.
- Scholarships should be considered for associated programs (supported by PTO\$)

### **Ski Skate Sale (Brian):**

- Brian notes that the sale was a great success this year.
- MBS school, staff and teachers have provided tremendous support.
- Vendors are invited to attend, and overall 20% of proceeds help fund school district wide initiatives, such as the MBS climbing wall, ski teams, athletic events.
- Brian is wrapping up this year and will begin planning next year's event.
- Brian will tap into PTO for future volunteers.

### **Red Barn Coupon Books (Tiera):**

Tiera suggested we reconsider coupon book sales.

Books cost \$15.00, proceeds to PTO are \$5 per book.

Discussion surrounding value of book took place.

It was noted that we don't want to continue to push items on the heels of the fall fundraiser.

It was suggested we purchase ~25 books, and make them available at events and include information on the MBS website for book purchases.

Astrid will organize the book sales with Tiera.

It was noted that we should consider sale of coupon books at Ski/Skate sale next year.

### **PTO Officers (Tiera):**

PTO Officer discussions took place, following is our noted direction for this year:

Mary Small will maintain her Treasurer position

Tiera Porter and Eileen Moore will be Co-Presidents

Astrid Lague will lead our FaceBook Page

Bobbi Abbott and Deb Coryer will be Co-Secretaries

Amy Siegel will be our Lighthouse Representative

Lyn Spencer will continue with Capri Sun organization

Seeking volunteers for:

- Boxtops
- Summit House Representative
- Harmony House Representative
- Hannaford for Schools

Tiera will include call to volunteers in next PTO Newsletter

Next PTO Meeting will take place on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.