

Johnston Middle School PTO

Meeting Minutes

11/06/14

Opening

The regular meeting of the Johnston Middle School PTO was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on 11/06/14 in the JMS Library by Melanie Rosen, PTO President.

Present

A roster of the approximate 24 attendee names and contact information was collected and is available from the PTO upon request.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the following meetings were made available for review:

- 09/04/14
- 10/04/14

Open Issues

- Welcome by Mr. Sanders
- Ms. Dineen speaks
 - presents plan for all school read of novel in verse, All the Broken Pieces
 - spelling bee 12/02 after school; sign up in Library and pick up word list
- Title I Presentation Lucia Carrana is given
 - PAC meetings will coincide with PTO meetings
 - School/Parent Compact is distributed and reviewed
 - Adriana _____ explains Parent Involvement Police for review
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- Welcome by Melanie Rosen
 - Box Tops update is given: \$221 collected thus far
 - Beautification update: current projects include planting trees, landscaping, additional bench repairs, privacy slats in fence around maintenance area
- Anne Guerra, 1st VP
 - JMS funding initiative update
 - Sign-up sheets are circulated for Fine Arts Initiative and Beautification team members
 - Discussion of separating PTO budget funds from Fine Arts Initiative funds
 - Volunteers are requested to speak to local businesses and donors
 - Gofundme.org is reviewed and described
 - Talktomejms.org links to myschoolanywhere to keep parents signed up and informed on current events/news
 - Request for helpers to distribute flyers at arrival/dismissal times

- Seeking grant-writing experience
- Auditorium is being painted and wood repaired
- Updates on beautification projects and Magnet Week are given

New Business

- Parent question regarding resolving tardy/absence discrepancies is addressed by Mr. Sanders
- Uniform questions re long sleeved shirts under polo shirts are addressed/clarified by Mr. Sanders
- JMS students received 2nd place, 3rd place and Honorable Mention at Renaissance Festival
- JMS Band is sending 31 students to All-City Band event (most of any HISD school)
- JMS Band is sending 52 choir students to All-City event
- JMS is announced as finalist for Stacy/Bo Porter SELF Award which would allow new baseball field and after school athletics supplements
- Parents ask about possibility of robotics and other academic enrichments
- Questions addressed regarding Title I funds and what it covers
- Questions addressed regarding Magnet application process
- JMS is now majority zoned as of recent numbers/data
- Hand Bells is being phased out as magnet area because there is no high school connection/continuation
- New magnet program areas being considered: creative writing, performance gymnastics/dance
- Parent Question: what are we doing to increase academics? Offering separate AP/Pre-AP/Interventions, tutoring/test prep
- Question regarding school store hours: open on Friday; uniform shirts are also available for purchase from Ms. French during school hours
- Parent question addressed regarding Dave & Buster's field trip

Agenda for Next Meeting

- Talent Fest needs Chair/Committee
- Budget to be presented
- PTO Board Nominating Committee to be set
- Minutes for previous meetings to be approved

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. by Melanie Rosen, PTO President. The next general meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on February 5, 2015, in the JMS Library.

Minutes submitted by: Regina Puccio, PTO Secretary