

Lutz Parent Group Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2023/ 6:30 PM /Via Zoom

WELCOME

ATTENDANCE/SIGN IN: Diane Johanson, Tori Bonanni, Mary Johnson , Lauren Kennaugh-Steiner, Paul Yestrepsey, JoAnn O'Neill, Michelle Geraldts, Norma Joshua-Lee, Julia Sarotte, Ann Green, Christine Spencer

CALL TO ORDER 6:32pm by JoAnn O'Neill

THANK YOU'S AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Lauren KS: We had major donations from the Easter Spirit Week. Super generous, baskets were overflowing! Thank you to Student council, Ann Green, Janni McLean for assembling all the bags. The bags were very much appreciated by the community!

JoAnn O: Thank you to all the parents and staff that took time from their busy schedules to attend tonight's meeting!

PRINCIPAL/ASST. PRINCIPAL REPORT by Nick DeVault

- Spring Break starts Friday, students return on Monday
- SOMI (Special Olympics of Michigan) Fit Program has been coming in once a week providing exercise and education on healthy living. It is via zoom and we are in week 3 of 8 week program. Students seem to really like it. It is provided to Lutz at no cost.
- Completer Ring ceremony after break.
- April 18th 8am Talent show emcee tryouts are in Ms. Lauren's room – your child's teacher can give you more information about the tryout
 - The talent show is on June 22nd with an 8:30am performance for parents, 11:30 am performance for the students
- April 24th and 25th Agency tours will be held for this year's completers and next year's completers that are eligible
- April 27th Hawaiian Dance
- March 31st Friday Little Caesar's Love kitchen – free pizza for the students

TEACHER'S REPORT: no report

TREASURER'S REPORT by Tori Bonanni:

Balance \$4,381 up from \$3,725 vs Feb. No expenses in March. +\$650 is from profit of Butter Braids fundraiser. There are 5 remaining events budgeted for \$2,500. If all events come in on budget, there would be a carryover estimated at \$1,800. There is possibly room in the budget for another event this school year.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Jannie McLean and Ann Green will co-chair the Hawaiian Dance on April 27th and Staff Appreciation in May. Sign Up Genius for the dance will go out by April 1st for parent volunteers and donations. Sign Up for Staff Appreciation will go out a couple weeks after.
- Parent Surveys and discuss progress on Mission Statement
 - Table this until next meeting. Need to gather the responses because the results could guide our fundraising efforts.
- Announcement was made that there is still an open position for Corresponding Secretary.
- Talked with Treasurer, Tori B. about creating a rolling calendar for our budget. Is there an update for this?
 - Michelle G. suggested not spending all just to spend down to a set balance by end of year. Because we are a year-round program, there could be expenses heavier in one month vs. others.
 - Consideration for a rolling calendar budget will be taken into account when planning/budgeting is made for next year's events
- Talked about replacing DJ Zak for future dances. His cost is too high for our budget. Is there an update for this?
 - DJ Zak is not going to do the next dance. He's done a great job for the school and he will still be considered for future events.
 - DJ V is going to do the next dance. We are happy to give the opportunity to a current student.
- Non-Profit status. Is there an update on this?
 - Table for either next meeting or Executive Board meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

- Facebook page – JoAnn O’Neill to lead this project. Discussion tabled for Executive Board meeting
- Host a parent meeting/mixer/meet and greet at the April Dance and future dances
 - Mary J. said the missing link is the connection of parents.
 - JoAnn O. agreed and will partner with Mary J. to co-ordinate
 - Lauren KS offered the use of her classroom
- The Executive Board will meet to prioritize the fundraising ideas, discuss plan for Facebook page, budgeting. Date and Time TBD.
- Students want and need to have more social connections outside of school. Ideas to help with this: Parent Network to host events outside of school. Create events on future Facebook Page. Parents can connect easier and faster if we had a Facebook Page. Our local communities have a lot of Adaptive Recreation opportunities that we can take advantage of and attend with other families and meet new people.

Fundraising – In Progress

- Ann Green will set up date for hot dog cart with Weingartz. Email sent on 03.27.23 to James @ Weingartz. Waiting on response to proposed dates.
- RaiseRightSCRIP fundraiser is up and running. By end of week Ann G. to provide Nick D. a brief description of the fundraiser to include in weekly announcement along with the QR code and link that was previously sent.

Fundraising – New ideas proposed

- Michelle G. – Not a fan of purchasing Butter Braids. Instead, can we offer an alternative of giving a Cash Donation instead of purchasing the product?
- Nick D. – Possible fundraising idea that Parent Group can support. Would like to give “Student gifts” such as extra clothes for students, collared shirts, sensory items etc... Lauren KS has the list from the Health Care paras. Ann G will get the list from Lauren KS. Michelle G. offered up a mom swapping idea as a possible way to obtain items.
- Nick D. – consider raffle baskets for the dances, collect donations over the summer to fill the baskets.

- If you have any Fundraising ideas, please contact the Parent Group.

Fundraising – Previous Ideas

- Mary had a suggestion of a local pizza place or pub near her
- Ann suggested Mission BBQ and Mod Pizza. She will check into it.
- Nick suggested “Snow Freak” – someone on the internet that asks for suggestions of charitable organizations and then makes donations
- Margot suggested www.raisecraze.com – fundraising thru acts of kindness.
- Other suggestions were Target circle, Kroger, Amazon Smiles (have to be a non-profit for Amazon Smiles, Ann still waiting on approval of non-profit paperwork)
- Golf Outing Mr. Nader, former principal, is offering to chair a committee to hold a Lutz Golf Outing. Glenn Peters hosts a yearly golf outing that is very successful.
- Movie Nights

Fundraisers – Completed

- Butter Braids – Mar 2023
- Achatz Pie Company – Sept/Oct 2022

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:27pm

NEXT MONTH’S MEETING: Tuesday, April 25th at 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted by JoAnn O’Neill