

JRE PTSA Meeting

October 27, 2021

This meeting was held in-person at JRE School with an option to join virtually via Zoom.

In-Person Attendees:

Leah Kedley – Principal
Kara Ricotta – Co-Chair
Brooke Fossey – Secretary
Leslie Allen
Danielle Foringer
Lori Leitgeb
Larissa Rosario
Lindsey Yu
Megan Williams
Karen Wilson

Zoom Participants:

Danielle Shannon – Co-Chair
Robin Barone – Treasurer
Tori (Victoria) Starr – Teacher Rep
Megan Frank
Annalise Johnson-Smith
Kate Munzinger
Christina Ficicchia
Katie Ward

1. CALL TO ORDER – Chairs
 - Welcome and Call to Order at 7:08 pm
2. ESTABLISH QUORUM – Chairs
 - Quorum established.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Secretary
 - Confirm Receipt of Proposed September 22, 2021 Minutes by Members.
 - Minutes were posted on the website.
 - ***Motion to Approve September 22, 2021 minutes by Megan Frank. Seconded by Danielle Foringer. All in favor. Motion carries and September 22, 2021 minutes are approved.***
4. SCHOOL UPDATE – Principal
 - Ms. Kedley is feeling the excitement of the day-to-day and it's feeling more normal.
 - Covid-19 numbers are down.
 - Students should come prepared to do outside recess even in colder weather.
 - Lunch aide/recess positions (3 positions) are still open. 11am-1:30pm daily. Apply on the website.

JRE PTSA Meeting

October 27, 2021

- Welcome Back Picnic was a huge success – thank you.
- Thank you for reaching out as parents and improving the lines of communication; please continue to do so.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT – Treasurer

- The District is encouraging us to spend down our budget after a year of not being able to spend.
- We are going to try to add some walkable field trips, and enhance the Ice Cream Social outdoors.
- Need to keep \$1,500 in bank account: that is to allow us to start the next school year's activities without waiting for fundraising activities.
- Inflows
 - Robin bumped up some projections for Fundraising, like Supply Kits.
- Outflows:
 - ASEP is usually a wash
 - Rest of programs are basically unchanged.
 - Cultural Arts Events/Field Trips can double up to try to increase programming this year.
 - Courtyard: could fix the pond, 3rd graders may plant milkweed.
 - Read to Succeed lowered a bit because the funds are never fully spent.
 - What is the Student Opportunity Fund? It covers things like yearbooks for 5th graders, for students that need some financial assistance. Could people donate to that if they wanted to? Yes, we think they could (i.e., for books at the Book Fair).
 - Sustainability/Impact Earth: the quote is to make the Ice Cream Social zero waste.
 - Gift to School will be two televisions for the lunchroom for Student Council presentations and creative interactive programming in the shared space.
 - Field Trips:
 - Robin got some quotes for the Sam Patch boat tours. Pittsford used to take trips. Robin in a Treasurer there.
 - Library field trip for 1st graders should be resumed.
 - Intend to plan some walking field trips.
 - ***Motion to approve the budget with amendments discussed tonight was made by Brooke Fossey. Seconded by Lori Leitgeb. All in favor. Motion carries and budget is approved.***

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS – Reports from each Committee Chair

- After School Enrichment – Megan Frank
 - Classes are full and running smoothly.
 - Were there any different classes offered at MCE that might be offered at JRE?
 - Same: LEGO, art, chess
 - Different: ski, drama (Drama Kids), dance

JRE PTSA Meeting

October 27, 2021

- Discussion about courtyard/garden club in the past.
- Ski club has to go through the school district; Ms. Kedley is working on it.
- Code Ninja might be an option. Megan will look into it.
- Directory – Katie Ward
 - We had a recent push to get parents to sign up for the directory.
 - 173 active contacts, 220 students (half capacity).
 - We can have periodic pushes to increase enrollment.
 - Megan Williams will reach out the MCE Directory contact to see how they do it with almost 100% directory enrollment. Ms. Kedley will send out an email to parents for November next week so she can include anything Directory-related.
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – Lori Leitgeb
 - Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) presentation last week.
 - Lori is working on reorganizing our information on the website so people know what resources we have, and who to turn to with any concerns.
 - November 15 (Zoom): Presentation on the Equity Action Plan and Goals for the District.
 - If you have ideas for how to make our groups, buildings, etc. more welcoming, please share with Lori, because it will help our overall community.
- Ingathering – Caroline Linehan (update via Kara Ricotta)
 - We will be collecting food to donate to the Pittsford Food Cupboard at school and at Caroline's house from Nov 18-23.
 - 3,000 item goal
- Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) – Megan Williams and Lori Fields
 - Meeting to come in Nov.
- Light the Loop – Megan Frank
 - Huge success!
 - District will plan earlier in the next school year. They may make it a bigger fundraising initiative.
 - Katie Ward will help lead program next year.
- Membership – Kara Ricotta
 - 4th highest membership of all buildings / 2nd highest elementary school
- School Pictures – Jill Theodorakos
 - A few parents were able to come into the school to help.
 - Picture Day went great.
 - Nov 15 is make-up school picture day.
- Spirit Wear – Megan Dean
 - 220 orders, \$10,471 sales, \$1,967 profit (minus shipping)
 - Clothes will go home in backpack mail.
 - Another sale in the winter, TBD.
- Square 1 Art – Leslie Allen
 - Art teachers have finished all projects.
 - Stickers will not be coming this year.

JRE PTSA Meeting

October 27, 2021

- Could we give the art back to the students this year and/or display some around the school? Yes.
- Everything will be online this year. Ship to school (free) or home (pay).
- How to tell parents about the stickers this year? Leslie will get together with Danielle and Kara to draft an email to parents about Square 1 Art.
- Staff Appreciation – Megan Frank
 - One event is planned before Thanksgiving and another before winter break.
 - Some other schools do it monthly. Should we do it monthly or stick to what we've been doing? Consensus that whatever is offered will be appreciated. Megan is going to try for monthly.
 - If we do every month, we could do Kindergarten one month, 1st grade the next, etc.
 - Could include on Sign-Up Genius to sign up for set-up.
- Super Sale
 - Not as big a success as in years past. Poor weather, remote due to COVID. \$11,000 made (usually ~\$50,000).
- Welcome Back Picnic
 - Really successful! DJ was great, pizza sold, thank you everyone!
 - Kim and Stacy are looking into moving outside for a spring ice cream celebration.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Roller Skating Parties
 - Cannot do them this year. Sara DeLaurentiis is looking into other options for outside gatherings in the spring. She will report back at a future meeting.
- Anti-bullying discussion
 - To be continued. Girls on the Run may do something related standing up for others and expressing yourself in a positive way for their service project, so it may tie into this.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- None.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Let's change our phrasing to be more inclusive. Instead of JRE/MCE families at JRE, we are all JRE families.

9. ADJOURNMENT – (BY GENERAL CONSENT OR MOTION) – Chairs

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.