



ASH PTO General Meeting Minutes

7/6/23

Frances started meeting at 8: 50

Attending

PTO Council (Frances Joseph, Laurel Clucas, Janneke Philipsen, Michelle McCormick)

(See sign in sheet for additional attendees)

Agenda and outcome for final meeting:

1. Leadership Team Updates:

- ES Principal -Michelle Palmieri- shared highlights of the final two weeks events
- MS Principal – Beth Coyle- shared highlights and reflections of previous events and upcoming. Special mention that she would like to connect with Grade level moderators next year in a monthly meeting. (This was previously requested by ES principal as well, so it will be noted for ECC/ UE coordinators to connect with those parents as part of the renewed plan for the “Room Parent Program”)

2. General PTA updates

- Consider alternating PTO meetings next year to Council and Chairs meetings and General meetings- VOTE

APPROVED- bylaws to be updated

- ECC Coordinator – (Laurel)

i. Room parent Survey (currently not many responses, but hopeful more feedback in coming weeks)

-Neha and Kate will use results to update existing program.

-Neha exploring logistic for an ASH family playgroup for babies and toddlers. (collaborating with Lauren Kohlberg) –

Neha presented the overview and noted needing support around logistics , Michelle noted positive feedback, and wanting to support , but needing to explore protocols about such programs running on campus. Will continue to communicate and if approved, hopefully launch next Sept.

- **Spirit Wear (Michelle and Beth)**- will there be pop ups again next year at ECC? Open at main campus during parent coffees? Ideally, if volunteers available.

We will be purchasing the 70th Anniversary swag and start promoting at the **ASH BASH** (Back to school BBQ event, 19. Aug.)

- **International Festival (Alexander)-** scheduled for Saturday, Apr. 20. (12-3 time still pending) The week prior will be a combined celebration for International Week and Earth Week. The theme will be “My Home, My Earth”. The idea of the event being open to the community is being explore, but there are many logistics to consider, this discussion will be ongoing.
- **Winter Bazaar (Laurel)-** “Save the Date” info sent to vendors, including new vendors from the “organic bazaar” from Earth Week. Silvia’s Feestwinkel is interested in sponsoring again .
- **MMN-** Calendar secured for the year – some questions about Sinterklaas themed meeting, as the date was picked relative to thoughts about his arrival, but might not align as he arrives in the Netherland on the 18/11 (televised).
- **PTO Communications (Michelle)**
 - **Parent Engagement Survey – will be sent via social media, and Whatsapp groups before end of the year.**

- **OTHER UPDATES**

- Amanda also offered updates on the Pub Quiz (currently scheduled for 15 Sept.,) The event has been given administrative approval, and permitted to run 630-930, will need to be cleaned up and out by 10/1030 including clean up)
- Frances will make updates to bylaws, as well as reverting all notations of PTO vs PTA.
- Michelle noted wanting to explore other PTO’s voting protocols, as she is in favor of a more open forum, for voting. She volunteered to head this research.

3. **Review and Vote to Approve new CTA guidelines (Frances)**

- **Guidelines were emailed to voting members prior to the meeting and were approved. At this meeting**
- **The primary change was that PTO is encouraged to use annual funds to increase and improve our events , and not prioritize a certain amount of funding for CTA. Recommendation was to review the budget Apr. 1st and determine funds left to offer for CTA applicants. Additionally, staff members requesting funds should check in their division principals prior to applying for CTA funds, as they may already have a budget for it.**
- **What was approved this year? ECC : toy storage box, outdoor class cushions, outdoor musical instruments, expansion of Mud kitchen and new sandbox materials .MS play equipment storage box, MS baseball gloves.**
- **Additionally the PTO has supported requests for MS dance and HS prom, and misc. ad hoc requests for the end of the year.**

- How will we share it with the school? When items are purchased we will have photos, and will be featured on the PTO website.
4. Vote on 23/24 Budget (Janneke)- shared proposed changes to some event and committees funding, and council members and chairs present voted to accept budget for next year.
 5. Vote on Kate joining Council as Secretary for 23/24- APPROVED
Vote on ECC / UE Coordinator Positions transitioning from “coordinator” to “chair” positions- (no change to actual title) APPROVED
 6. Create action items for Orientation (Frances)- will be ongoing during the summer, but those who will be present (MMN, Spirit Wear, International Festival, General PTO info-will work to prepare and update handouts and information, slideshows, etc. for the event.
Beth Coyle requested that PTO support families in installing the ASH APP as part of our service that day.
 7. Next PTO meeting scheduled for Sept 6th (General Meeting)

Frances ended meeting at 9:50