

**PTA General Meeting
May 17, 2023 at 9 am
via Zoom
Meeting Minutes**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Review and Approval of the Minutes
- III. Principal's Report
 - A. Upcoming assessments: MAP ELA 5/23-5/25. MAP Math 5/30-6/1. Living Environment Regents (for 8th Gr)- 6/14. Math Regents (for 8th Gr)- 6/15.
 - B. Accelerated Math: NEW for next year. School has been mandated to provide accelerated math for 6th Gr next year but will provide for 7th Gr, too. Will provide to all three grades in 2024-25 school year. There will be 1 section of accelerated math per grade. Accelerated classes will cover grade level topics and incorporate some topics from one grade level up.
 1. Criteria: Any current 5th Gr student who got a 4 in math will have the option to be in the accelerated class. Current 6th Graders should have at least a 90 in math, 95%+ attendance record, MAP assessment in at least the 61st percentile and a teacher recommendation. 6th Gr teachers will send out letters in 1-2 weeks inviting selected students to participate.
 2. Curriculum: We will continue to use the Illustrative Math curriculum which is used Districtwide.
 3. Grouping: Only math classes will be separated by level. Non-math classes will continue to be heterogeneously grouped. Students will have the opportunity to move into or out of accelerated program after each school year and possibly even in the middle of the year.
 4. 8th Gr: No changes for next school year (i.e., next year all 8th Graders will take Algebra 1 and the Regents Exam. Note: if you're concerned about taking the Regents, contact Hope). Beginning in 2024-25, regular math sections will take 8th Grade Math and will take the 8th Grade Math State Exam while accelerated section will take Algebra 1 and will take the Regents Exam.
- IV. Treasurers' Report
 1. April Financial Report: Florin Dorobantu shared Statement of Activity for April. Main revenue source was the 8th Grade package. There is still auction \$ coming in that hasn't hit our bank account yet. Net revenue for the month is -\$5K (\$20K in expenses, \$15K revenue) but we are still in the black for the year. PTA resolved an issue with the IRS and got its 501c3 tax-exempt status back.
 2. Presentation of 2023-2024 Budget Proposal: Budget spreadsheet presented with two columns: this year and proposed (for next year). Proposed budget reflects feedback from two budget committee meetings including committee members, teachers, parents and Valerie. Every item of the budget is either staying the

same or being reduced. This reflects lower enrollment (220 graduates are being replaced by only 100 incoming 6th Graders) and low parent engagement.

- a. Revenue: Total budget revised from \$194,450 this year to \$132,500 next year. Family Giving and Auction will be the two main fundraisers. Auction goal revised from \$70K to 50K and Family Giving revised from 62K to 45K. Board got a late start with both fundraisers this year and plans to start earlier and intensify efforts next year. Current YTD Family Giving is only at 17K but commitment to 45K next year comes with a plan for community engagement and events starting early in the school year and the possibility of getting corporate match donations again. Corinne has experience planning the Auction now and can get an earlier start next school
- b. Expenditures: Reductions planned for academic support, PTA operating expenses, field trips, science and drama materials and enrichment, graduation, family workshops and fundraising expenses (some events such as family portraits and Cyclones games are not being done anymore but if someone steps up wanting to plan them next year we can vote on it). No reduction to spending for library author visits or for financial consulting fees for Fran.

V. Presidents' Report

A. Past Events & Initiatives

B. Teacher Appreciation Week: All events went well

C. Upcoming Events and Initiatives

- i. 8th Grade Field Day – JJ Walker: Today. No field day for other grades this year.
- ii. 7th & 8th Grade Art Showcase – Thurs 5/18: NEED volunteers. Kids are helping but need parents to manage. Email Victoria if you can help.
- iii. Talent Show – Wed. May 23: Organized by Val Boos. Daytime and nighttime shows. Volunteers needed. Signup Genius shared in chat.
- iv. 7th Grade Spring Fling – Thurs. May 24, 5-6:30pm: Fun picnic-themed party in the cafeteria with ping pong, cornhole, lemonade, pizza, hot dogs and DJ Manny (but it's not just a "dance"). Daniele Strain is organizing but needs HELP. Signup Genius shared in chat. Reminder: students need signed permission slips to attend. Sign online or find a paper version in your child's backpack. Hope has more paper copies, too.
- v. 6th Grade Orientation Mon. June 5th: 9-11am. Hope reported a planning meeting was held on Monday with 6th Gr teachers. Orientation will be on a school day, not on Clerical Day like last year, so students can see the school in action. There will be a slideshow and presentations, student ambassadors will do tours, kids will be split up into groups with current teachers and do icebreaker activities. Any current parents who want to come may do so. Q: Can 5th Graders come to this if they haven't selected 75 Morton yet? A: Contact Hope.

- vi. Yearbooks: Scheduled delivery June 10. Link to buy yearbook shared in chat. 8th Graders will receive one as part of 8th Grade package.
 - vii. Coffee Talk – Hope: May 30, 9:30am, Zoom. Guidance Counselor Elaine Liu and Hope will host a preliminary high school talk for 6th & 7th Grade families and provide a general overview of how the process works.
 - viii. Year End Gifts
 - ix. SLT: Currently working on CEP (Comprehensive Education Plan). SLT has split up to work in separate groups by subject (Math, ELA, etc).
 - ix. 8th Grade Graduation
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Close Nominations for the 2022-2023 PTA Executive Board & SLT

Elections held at June PTA meeting – June 15

- A. Rae Vermeulen represented the Nomination Committee, which facilitates elections for PTA Exec Board and SLT. She read the following nominations already received and called for any other nominations to be made:
- 1. PTA Co-Presidents: Corinne Moreno-Geis and Lilibeth Feliciano, running on 1 ticket. No other nominations.
 - 2. PTA Co-1st Vice Presidents: Daniele Strain and Thom Lee, running on 1 ticket. No other nominations.
 - 3. PTA Co-2nd Vice Presidents: Karl Apfel and Yodit Walker, running on 1 ticket. No other nominations.
 - 4. PTA Treasurer: Florin Dorobantu. No other nominations.
 - 5. PTA Secretary: Elly Guirovich. No other nominations.
 - 6. PTA Members-at-Large: Erika Soto Lamb. No other nominations. There are 5 available positions.
 - 7. SLT: No nominations received. 3 positions available. SLT terms are 2 years.
- IX. Adjournment

Next PTA General Meeting – Wed. June 14, 9am. Voting on Budget