McDole Elementary School PTO – Minutes

Action Items in *Red*

**Date:** **October 18, 2022** **Called to Order:** **7:00 pm**

**Attendees:** Jen Kmiec, Jen Crocker, Laura Chen, Colleen Wehrmann, Brian Zerfas (Zoom/FB Live)

**Welcome and Introductions:**

2022-2023 PTO Board:

* Jennifer Kmiec – President
* Laura Chen – Vice President
* Jennifer Crocker - Treasurer
* Colleen Wehrmann – Secretary

**Treasurer’s Report:**

* Reminder for families to use Amazon Smile benefitting McDole PTO; has already generated $110
* Trivia night total still being counted
* Board approved the budget update

**Secretary’s Report:** N/A

**Committee Reports:**

* Halloween - Colleen Wehrman
  + Classroom Halloween parties and parade coming up, parade is at 2:30pm 10/31
  + Parent room volunteers still needed for Ms. Cyr’s class and the New Pathways classroom
  + Parent room volunteers are planning the parties, no food is allowed
* Trunk or Treat – Kimberly Cheatham
  + Will be this Saturday Oct 22, 2-4pm (arrive at 1:30pm if you are decorating your trunk)
  + If you would like to decorate your trunk, we are still welcoming volunteers
  + Families do not have to supply candy if they are decorating a trunk
  + Families can donate candy to the candy monster at school.
  + The Grove is providing swag, also the Montgomery Police Department will be there.
* Trivia Night – Jen Crocker
  + Happened on Sept 30, profit of about $1000
* Pumpkin Decorating Contest – Kalie Douglass
  + Voting is going on right now
  + Pumpkins are displayed in the library
  + Pictures will be shared after voting is complete
* Teacher/staff meals during parent-teacher conferences – Elli Fuchs
  + Teacher meals being organized, more to come
  + We can only use PTO funds for student needs so we will be requesting donations specifically for the teachers’ meals.
* Dining Nights – Jenn Schlipp
  + Food truck event last month resulted in about $60 profit
* Fun lunch – Ashley Villanueva (no update this meeting)
* Talent show – Kalie Douglass (no update this meeting)
* Spring raffle baskets (no update this meeting)
* Yearbook – Julie Gritzner (no update this meeting)

**Staff Requests**

* Ms. Salzman, MTSS Interventionist
  + Requesting 3 ball chairs for her classroom, total around $210
  + Approved by board
* Ms. Cyr, 5th grade
  + Requesting games for indoor recess and SEL time, about $60
  + Approved by board
* Ms. Schieber, Critical Thinking
  + Additional materials including rigamajig fasteners, Plus Plus shapes, snap cubes, $154
  + Approved by board
* Ms. Bradford, MTSS Interventionist – 1st grade
  + White board table for small groups, $450
  + Approved by board

**Update from the Principal**

* Requesting $400 to stock the new McDole MerchMart as part of the new McDole Moolah program; requesting $600 for an assembly with the Chicago Blackhawks mascot on leadership.
  + McDole Moolah program started 10/17 with a school assembly
  + Students can earn tickets where each ticket is worth $1.
  + Every two weeks is a character focus; current focus is good decision making.
  + Students can take their McDole Moolah and go to the McDole MerchMart every 2 weeks
    - MerchMart is on a cart in a multipurpose classroom that used to house the part time music class and is now an alternate PE classroom.
    - Can purchase trinkets/prizes
    - Can buy experiences like Assistant Principal for a day, read the morning announcements, play a song on announcements, PJ day for the class, ride with a police officer in the police car with the lights going. Village of Montgomery also participating.
  + Requesting $400 to fill the MerchMart for the year, get the trinkets and prizes of various cost points.
  + There are similar programs at Shields and Blackberry Elementary schools
  + There are school-wide goals for how many tickets are used in the McDole MerchMart
    - For 2000 tickets, Tommy Hawk mascot of Chicago Blackhawks could come do a school wide assembly on leadership and teambuilding. That cost is $600 for the assembly.
    - For 3500 tickets, each student gets a t-shirt
    - For 5000 tickets, student council will decide.
* Board approved $1000 ($400 for stocking the MerchMart, $600 for assembly).
* New student organizations that have just started, to also increase student engagement:
  + Project KC – 3rd, 4th 5th graders
    - Meet once a month after school
    - Focus on service projects in community
    - For example, letters to veterans, food drive, cleaning up around school.
  + Safety Patrol – 4th and 5th graders
    - About 40 safety patrollers monitor the hallways, some in mornings, some in afternoons
    - Montgomery PD came to "swear" them in
  + Student Council – 3 representatives from each 3rd, 4th 5th grade classroom
    - 1st meeting is 10/21 afternoon.
    - Students decide how they will improve their school.
    - Students had to get a parent signature and write a short application on why they want to be involved.

**New Business/Reminders:**

* McDole will need a new President for the 2023-24 School Year
* New Treasurer 2024-25 (Jen C. would welcome the opportunity to start training now)
* New Secretary 2024-25

**Next Meeting: Virtual, November 15, 2022 / The meeting adjourned** at **7:45pm.**