

“Where parents and teachers work in unity to serve the best interest of our children”

DMCS PTO Meeting Minutes

Dixon Montessori Charter School (DMCS) Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO)
Tuesday August 19th, 2014 6:30 pm
DMCS Campus Room 5

Members Present: Rebecca Valentino, *Interim Secretary*, Jennifer Felix, *Parent*, Jennifer Cross, *Parent*, Angele Boudreaux, *Publicity Chair*, Katie Summers, *Co-Chair*, Loraine Covello, *Garden*, Robin Duncan, *Parent/Teacher*, Cinnamon Danielson, *Parent*, Stacye Galbraith, *Parent*, Shelli V. Haaf, *Parent*, April Kemp, *Teacher*, Justin Granillo, *Parent*, Missy Ballance, *Parent*, JoAnn Pereira, *Box Tops*, Kelly Kosiewicz, *Interim Fundraising Chair*, Jacquie McMillen, *Teacher*, Sheri Luney, *Teacher*, Donny Everhart, *Interim Chair*

1. Welcome/Call To Order 6:35

2. Adopt Agenda and additions there was two teacher requests added to the agenda, they will be reported in New Business.

2. Officer Report (Chair, Co-Chair or Secretary as needed) Donny Everhart, Guadalupe Medina or Rebecca Valentino (these positions are open and Officers are acting in the interim)

3. Treasurer’s Report: Kim Scott (this position is open and officer is acting in the interim) Kim sent us a report balance of 20,919.94 stating in an email to the secretary that to the best of her knowledge there is no outstanding items to be paid except for a teacher request for funds to be paid to Guadalupe Medina for a conference she wished to attend. Ms. Guadalupe did not attend the conference so that money will go back into the general fund. Kelly Kosiewicz stated that she did not feel this amount reflected the deposit from the Fireworks fundraiser. By the end of the meeting we had heard back from Kim that this is in fact true. The PTO has more money in the account than this. The next PTO meeting with our newly voted in Treasurer Shelli V. Haaf will work this out! In the meantime, the PTO members present voted to allocate \$10,000 toward the “regular” PTO budget and decide how to best support the school with the remaining money at the next and if necessary subsequent meetings. One item that came up was purchasing the rest of the projectors—a project we began last year when we learned that ALL the teachers use them in the classroom and that they have to share the resources available.

4. New Business

- a) Elections: All executive positions as well as many Chairs are open especially important needed is a fundraising chair and a spirit Chair. Missy Ballance offered to be the new Chair as long as Donny continued to speak at times on behalf of the PTO. Donny agreed and Missy was voted in unanimously. So we now have a New Chair and Treasurer and are still seeking a Fundraising Chair, Publicity Chair and all other chairs as noted in these minutes.
- b) Fall Festival: The Fall Festival will be October 18th. We discussed whether money should be charged for admission or to put out Donation Jars at some tables. This is a Free Event and the public is invited. We voted to keep the event free and only charge money for food/drink and any classroom fundraising that may occur. This includes if we have the DMCS shirt tie-dye booth again this year. (Everyone present was jazzed about it, and Kelly said she would ask Mike Cole who really spearheaded the dying of the shirts last year if he would do so again this year)
- c) Scholastic Book Fair: The scholastic book fair will happen the first week of November with a Book Drop off on the 31st of the month. We needed someone to “chair” this event since neither Kelly, nor Rebecca can be there every day. Stacey Galbraith volunteered to run the fair, knowing she will have help.... The book fair will be held in Room 5 again.
- d) Teacher Requests: Ms. Kemp requested 259.14 for microscopes for the middle school. This would give the school enough microscopes for the students to share 3-1. The microscopes are currently on sale for a very good price. Donny Everhart suggested that like the projectors we should consider buying more microscopes so that the ratio was 2-1. A number we figured would be 9 more at an approximate cost of 777.42 without shipping.) We asked if the company might give an additional volume discount for volume...Ms. Kemp said she would certainly ask. Missy Balance pointed out that this was just the kind of purchase that the PTO is for and that we shouldn't sit on money just because. It was pointed out by Shelli Haaf that we do not know the actual total in the bank account and that maybe we should wait before spending money. The PTO members present discussed the pros and cons and ultimately voted to approve the purchase.
- e) Teacher Request: Ms. Jacquie requested reimbursement for the purchase of two rugs to convert her 4/5 classroom into a more Montessori learning and teaching environment. We tabled this request for the next meeting since we really “don't” have a sense of our overall funding allocation for teacher requests and that it didn't appear to be time sensitive like Ms. Kemp's (the microscopes are ½ off for a limited time)

5. Old Business

6. Chair reports

- a. Fundraising Chair: This position is open
 1. Box tops and Labels: JoAnn Pereira: Joanne requested help with Box tops this year. Stacey Galbraith volunteered.
 2. Spirit Shirt Sales: JoAnn Pereira: JoAnn did some research regarding different companies that have Online shops...something we wanted to explore so that parents can purchase Spirit items after the bulk sales. She said that many of the companies run them more like fundraisers with the shop open only for a limited time, and many charge a \$5.00 shipping fee. The general feeling was that it was worth trying and that a parent would be willing to pay shipping if it was an item needed. She also asked about shirt price and whether it was a fundraiser because the shirts in the past few years have fluctuated in price depending on whether it was a vehicle to earn funds. The shirt prices can be as little as \$8.00. The consensus was that it was for Spirit and not to raise funds per say but to earn a little something per shirt was okay. It may be a little much to drop the shirt prices from \$11-\$13 down to 8 maybe step down to \$10?
 3. Scrip: Jeff Poteet: Jeff was not able to make the meeting
 4. Papa Murphy's: Stacey Galbraith made stickers for Pizza Wednesday on Sept. 20th. Donny reiterated that he felt they made a big difference in earnings for the school.
 5. Cookie Dough Fundraiser: Jessica Hansen. Jessica Hansen emailed Rebecca and asked her to find out when we wanted to start the Cookie Dough Sales. Ms. Joanne said as soon as possible.
- b. Spirit Chair: This position is Open
 1. Spirit Day
 2. Spirit Events
- c. Academic Enrichment: Heather Stokes
 1. Art: Mark Hesling: Mark Sent an email stating that he is interested in continuing this but would like someone to work with. He also said that the Art items on the cart got mixed up with the school items and that replenishment would be needed.
 2. Science: Rwanie Kraak
 3. Music
 4. Physical Education: Beth Ockenden

5. Technology: Donny Everhart (Robotic Club): Raffle Tickets for an IPAD are being sold for \$10.00 and there will be an electronic recycling event the same day as the Fall Festival
 6. Library: Jessica Hansen

 - d. Site Beautification Committee: This position is open
 1. Garden: Loraine Covello: The crushed granite has been installed; now Loraine is working on sponsorship to add the last 5 garden boxes. Her goal this year is to also work on the curriculum that goes with the garden. She wanted to make sure the current PTO understood that the 1600 she previously had in her funds were expressly for the crushed granite and when allocating funds to remember that gardens always need investment to keep running. She also asked if anyone wanted to help with a salsa party for back to school night.

 - e. Publicity Committee: Angele Boudreaux and Missy Ballance
 1. PTO Website: Please check out the website at DMCS.INFO If you have any feedback email Angele at angeleb@gmail.com

 - f. Review Committee: This position is open. This position is kind of a watchdog position. The individual is responsible for making sure there is an Auditor for the financial books; there is a review committee for the bylaws when needed, and a committee to run the spring elections on time.

 - g. Volunteer Committee: Donny Everhart
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7. Confirm Next Meeting Date: Tuesday September 9th at 6:30 pm in Room 5.

 8. Adjournment: 8 pm.