



## PTO General Meeting Minutes

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### **100K Donation Drive Update**

We started the donation drive February 1st and we extended it to March 12. We were able to achieve a participation rate of 52%. With this donation drive, we were able to raise over \$7,000 (\$7,056) and donations received specific for Academic Needs usage = \$1,630.

PTO will make our 2nd donation to the school in the amount of \$9,000 later this month.

Donations are continued to be accepted via PTO website donation page. You can choose what your donation would like to be used for - academic needs, school needs, special program, or for next school year's curriculum (which includes technology updates, textbooks for all subjects, and consumable workbooks.

Thank-you to everyone, for participating in the school-wide donation drive. Gifts are being distributed to all students. If your student is in-school, gifts were received yesterday and today. If your child is doing virtual learning only, gifts can be picked up at the material pickup or from the office. Celebration Party will take place on Friday 3/26 @12:30pm via Zoom.

Question regarding donation drive:

1. What is the difference between the academic need and next year's curriculum?
  - o All money donated this year will be used for this year (ex: the \$1630 will be used for this year's academic need).
  - o Additional funding is needed for next year's school curriculum.
  - o Jog-A-Thon - led by academic committee and PTO Board

### **Events for the remainder of the year**

#### **MARCH:**

Scholastic Book Fair - 2-week virtual event. No in-person event this year. Information can be found on PTO website - our shopping site for our school, a coupon code (Promo Code - "Share 10") to get 10% off your order, and how to shop for our book fair (video tutorial). Free shipping for orders over \$25. School gets 25% of net sales as scholastic rewards. Ends Sunday 3/28 @ midnight. Teachers have a classroom wish list on PTO Website - a shared document listing books they want for their respective classes.

Restaurant Fundraiser - Next week - Sushi Mito. They have great food. They are open for lunch 11:30am-2pm and dinner from 5pm-9:30pm. Order online or pick-up and mention ICAGA or show the flyer and 10% of sales donated to school. This is the place we ordered bento boxes for teachers' luncheon. Please mark your calendar.

Parent Chat Room - Thursday 3/25 @ 8:00pm via zoom - We will be discussing how to get help with learning Japanese Language. We will be sharing resources on the PTO website - resources page.



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Question for Principal Jones - There is about \$1500 in Scholastic Funds to use from previous book fairs. Are there any school materials that can be bought using the scholastic funds? Principal Jones will look into available funds.

#### **APRIL:**

**ICAG Memory Book** - similar to a yearbook. We will provide information w/ details (letter size book - soft or hard cover). We will be selling pages. If you would like your child to have a collage of pictures/ messages, we will sell quarter, half and full pages - for any personal messages/photos and local business ads. Parents can also place congratulation messages for all of their accomplishments this school year (August 2020-May 2021). We will work with the school to see if there are any photos they can share and include in the memory book as well. Memory books will be available for purchase at the end.

**Cookbook Fundraiser** - We haven't been able to collect the number of recipes we need to publish the book. Still collecting recipes. Anyone with 5 recipes or more, will receive ICAGa car magnet. Postponed until next school year. For any recipes you would like to submit, please send to PTO email or go to the PTO website and submit there.

**Parent Chat Room** - Thursday, April 29 and 8pm. Chat topic: Miscellaneous topics - English classes, How to navigate Google Classroom tools, and Parenting advice during the pandemic.

**Yakitori Stand Fundraiser/ Yakitori Stand** - a grilled skewer chicken stand - which we've had in previous Fall/Spring Festivals. School has approved the event to take place on school property on a Friday (date to be determined). Most likely, event will take place end of April/ Beginning of May and we will be taking online orders via PTO website and pick-up times will be provided, to avoid crowds.

#### **MAY**

**Jog-A-Thon** - May 1-16. A Virtual event. This event is to support a \$10,000 goal for next year's academic curriculum material.

Kiyoka will discuss the details of this event. This will be the last fundraiser of the year.

- We changed the dates from April to May - due to testing in April.
- Using 99 Places again for this platform.
- Donations and Corporate Sponsors, local businesses needed. Need parents to help to share sponsorship letter and package information.
- Registration opens mid-April. Registration period is longer than usual to allow for t-shirt orders. Ideally, participating students and parents buy t-shirt and wear while they run/jog/walk.
- Incentive, such as prizes, to motivate kids to participate. Possibly do a classroom competition?
- We will use ICAGa News Minute to share event info with teachers & students. Principal Jones confirmed.



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**PTO Board Election** - Election of PTO Board Officers for 2021-2022. Anyone interested in joining PTO, helping the school, and being hands on, this is for you! We will set up the nominations page on the PTO website. You can nominate yourself and other people. More details will be provided.

**Celebration for 5th grade and Kindergarten** - This year will be the milestones for those grades, as 5th grade will be moving on to Middle School and Kindergarten moving into 1st grade.

**Chat Room** - May or may not have this chat room. To be confirmed.

Additional questions:

1. Do we offer a student's individual school picture in the memory book (like we would in a yearbook)?

More like a collection of photos and messages. We would need consent from parents to include individual student picture with names.

2. With the shooting in Cherokee Country - A concerned parent wants to know what the school is doing to keep our kids safe? Parent reviewed policies and procedures the school has in place, in case of emergency. In reviewing the student handbook, the school does have a procedure and drills for lockdown and parent wanted to know a little bit more about it - from Ms. Jones.

Ms. Jones - we have lockdown drills, done monthly as required by state. Extra precautions were taken by school, in terms of how teachers and students are moving around the building. School is not using cafeteria for classes and being very cautious. School reached out to local police department to increase patrolling of school and presence around the building. Drill information can be provided in the next newsletter.

3. A parent asked if school will be getting additional funding, with the new Covid Relief bill that was passed.

Ms. Jones - We did apply for new funding and waiting to hear if we will be getting it. As soon as we know, we will provide an update. Next week is our Board meeting, and we expect to have a report from our CFO on that, in terms of what funding can/are we getting.