

Orange High School PTSO meeting minutes 10/12/21

Welcome – led by Jessie Kelly. Participants included principal, VPs, PTSO officers, and parents.

Treasurer Report:

- Unofficial Financials: see document (our treasurer under the weather)
- Note: deposit of \$1000 from anonymous donor at Fidelity! Consider matching grants from your place of work. Report unanimously approved.

UNOFFICIAL FINANCIALS

Balance from 08/30:	\$8671.07
Deposits:	\$2292.85
Withdrawal	\$214.99
Balance on 09/30:	\$10,748.93
Accounts Payable:	\$2,493.89
Emergency Fund:	\$1,887.51
Available:	\$6,367.53

Fundraiser updates: Amazon Smile is becoming much easier to use! We are collecting Amazon Wish List from some of teachers (9 so far!) We are consolidating the doc and will distribute through various social media platforms. Note you can find the stuff anywhere, does not have to be from amazon. If you get from somewhere else, notify PTSO so that it can be removed from the main list!

MiniGrants:

- Thanks to PTSO for providing resources. Thank sub-committee: Anne Campbell, Kim Runkle and Wendy Gehm for making the application easy.
- We had 7 applications and they were all great (see below)! We said yes to all of them!
- Teachers are to submit receipts by end of the month. Project Reports due December 15th. We will share the reports within our school community.

MINI GRANT - CONGRATULATIONS!

Recipient	Grant Description	Cost
Kay Cee Sprintz	Microphones for Public Speaking	\$214.99
Katrina Okoli	Tesla (EVs) vs. Gas Powered Cars	\$300.00
Tracy Barger	Supplemental Book Purchase	\$300.00
Lauren Maher	Magic Tree House Books	\$288.52
Meredith Stephens	Growing a Great Journalism Classroom	\$293.92
Crystal Laws	Calming/Relaxation Room	\$300.00
Hailey Loftis	Pegboard Stitching	\$264.45
	7 Projects	\$1961.88

New Business:

- **Student Government:** we should have a student representative at our future PTSO meetings!
- **Proposal for a mini-grant program for student clubs.** New clubs and clubs that do not have a parent booster group will take priority. Simple application for durable goods/materials, with advertisement through the teacher sponsors, but students responsible for completing and submitting application to PTSO. Motion passed to sponsor 3 clubs at \$100 each.
- **Teacher Work Day:** they love coffee and tea. How about we get Three Water Café for Teacher Workday. A fun treat for the teachers \$5/head for total of \$600 (max). Jessie will get more info
- **Budget Revision:**
 - \$160 (\$20/meeting) for gift cards for translators at our PTSO meetings.
 - \$250 for homecoming and school prizes.
- **Volunteering in school:** teachers want assistance getting time back. TWO ways to help
 1. Punch list of things that must be done – not student facing. I.e.: set up bulletin boards, photocopying, etc. We will create a sign up list for parents.
 2. Monitoring of students during their planning time, lunch, etc. We will need to have feedback from board before we move forward with the student-facing component. Stay tuned!
- **Teachers appreciate the notes of support.** What if we made a habit of thanking one of our children's teachers via a personal email every week? Jessie is doing this already.
- **Remind** our own children to wear a mask and get to class on time. Respect the teachers.

OHS principal updates: Mr. Johnson

- Support has been tremendous. He and the teachers see and feel it.
- Mr. Johnson has been encouraging students to go into elementary schools to read culturally relevant books with the younger children. 50 HS kids have signed up and 2 elementary schools are participating (River Park and Central).
- He is recognizing that masking is hard for the students. Working to be empathetic and enforce the safety measures.

- Tardiness is improving with the “sweeps”.
- Some racial tension is his biggest concern, but he is also very concerned about a marked increase in vaping. He is setting up a No vape campaign with posters in restrooms. He is concerned about emerging addiction.
- We need a school improvement team parent representative. Time commitment – once a month for a parent. Jill Munson is stepping up! Mr. Johnson will reach out to her tomorrow.
- HE is worried that school is not fun. October 29th is our Senior Day where seniors will get to hang out together for an hour. He is also setting up a day for the other classes. Stay tuned, there will be a time that seniors can paint their parking spot.
- Homecoming dance/event? No. However, he is meeting with SGA next week. There is conversation about winter formal. Right now, cannot have anything inside, so need to think through an outside venue somewhat protected.
- We are planning to have a prom. Money is set aside.
- Destruction? Not as much as some schools – kids are going after our soap dispensers. No one has ‘smacked a teacher’.
- COVID cases are down! Our vaccination rates are looking better and better. 90% of staff is vaccinated. Testing of athletes has not yet started. First staff and then athletes.
- Still have vacancies – just lost an English and a business Ed teacher. One leaving teaching. One going to another school in hopes of taking on a new role.
- Mr. Johnson wants to brainstorm about our master schedule. Is the 90-minute block schedule ideal? Maybe not. We may need to be more nimble. Have more flexibility. For example, we have 286 seniors. 180 of them are early dismissal or late arrival. Is it possible to have double kids in a lecture hall like situation? Stay tuned.

In summary/Final TO DO list:

- Mini-grant clubs
- Teacher workday food truck
- Help coordinate volunteering for photocopying and student-facing volunteer.
- PTSO teacher wish list – November clear the list month!
- Food donations to stock up teacher lounge. Add snack basket to 400
- Reach out to Alicia Harris to offer help with donations and volunteers for Senior Day.
- Transportation update purposefully tabled until next meeting.