Gorsebrook Junior High PTA Minutes

Monday Feb 24, 2020

Attendance: David Leblanc, Abby Ferguson, Sarah Muir, Stephanie Nolen, Pia Lintunnen, Michele Byers, Sandi Shaw, Shauna Archibald. Regrets: Jen Leblanc, Diane Waligura

1.Call to order at 6:08

2. Approval of Minutes from January meeting.

3. Principal’s Report-

See attached. Feb= African Heritage month activities. Low attendance at Dance, might try to combine with Central. Battle of the Books competition starts next week. Musical rehearsals going well. Received healthy foods grant (will be used to prepare food for breakfast program). $3000 grant for GSA- renovation to room/ meeting space. Dates- including Neptune “Jabber”. GJHS is going to Citadel Musical in April.

4. SAC Report –Students not consistently bringing water bottles; engagement discussed. Looking at next year’s class sizes. Working out allocation of guidance counsellors., we have one at 50% now and not in school rest of time. Michele inquired about supports for international students, Dave states daily EAL support and classroom teachers using some prep/ unallocated time spent with students. Michele suggested that SMU international students and supports could be linked to school. Stephanie suggested a teacher training session on cultural competency- available through ISANS, will provide Dave with a contact. Arabic language support is available through the Y.

5. Treasurer’s Report

General account balance is $1075.91. Wine revenue is still not in! Garden grant $1784.

6. Ongoing business

1. International Event review (Stephanie)- Majority of families stated was first event attended outside of school hours. Great food. Many came later which was a challenge. Not as much mixing as hoped. The talent portion was challenging. Limited garbage. Consensus = is worth doing again. Stephanie to write up notes.
2. Musical update (Michele)- costumes, props, sets are done. Saved money by renting props from Dal. Financially very expensive., e.g, sound tech needed many hours (rehearsals + performances). Current funding- 1. Grant . 2. Advertising in the program= $775 so far. $2000 likely from admissions. Future revenue to offset costs- participation fee (like athletics)(will be covered if this is a barrier). Mr. Rose will record, using camera purchased by PTA. Copy of pictures- small cost vs free.

7. New Business-

-Event in the spring? – There is interest, should be a fundraiser (our account balance is low). Add to agenda for next meeting.

-Pia suggested wine tasting linked to adult dance , they did at LMST- Shauna to bring to grade 9 dance planning meeting Feb 26.

8. Next meeting date –Monday April 6 2020 @6pm