

Attendees:

Kelly Conner, Treasurer

Spencer Esslinger, Member (AMS Activities Director)

Tonja Goodwin, Member (AMS Instructional Coach)

Mandy (no last name given), Member

Tracy Di Marco White, President

Heather Forkner, Member

Jason White, Secretary (by proxy)

Call to Order - Welcome:

- Brief introductions were given by each attendee.

Unfinished Business:

New business:

- Motion to change bylaws: allow more flexibility in scheduling of regular organizational meetings by removing language requiring that meetings must be held the third Monday of each month to read “the regular meeting of the organization shall be on the same day and at the same time each month to be determined by the board of directors.” This change was approved unanimously.
- Can we schedule future meetings at 4pm to include more teachers and staff? Looking at Tuesdays. Tuesdays don't fall on Personal Development (PD) days or school board meeting days, so we would be able to meet every month from now through May 2024.
- Because we didn't start the year with an approved budget, all expenditures must be approved ad-hoc during regular org meetings, but can also be approved by the board between regular org meetings.
- Motion to spend \$800 on teacher/sub gifts to be distributed by Judy Hopper. Currently has no gift cards, or candy. Approved unanimously.
- Motion to spend \$200 on staff appreciation gifts for secretaries/administrative assistants. Approved unanimously.
- Discussion of how to handle breakfast planning for Nov. 6th PD day. Breakfast around 8am, per Spencer. Need food for ~80. Kelly offered to help start organizing. Has access to previous planning materials (Sign-Up Genius forms, etc.). Tracy has been posting information on PTO meetings and other club's activities on PTO's Facebook page, which has increased the number of followers.
- Need donation link on website. Will notify when Jason has that ready. Still need to solve the payment processor issue.
- How to best reach people regarding PTO happenings. PTO-specific messages are useful. Announcements in AMS weekly newsletters may be missed due to information overload and being at the bottom of the announcement. [Secretary's note: will still put reminders in AMS weekly announcements. Have also been sending notifications out to members@ list prior to each meeting in the past, but only once. Will continue to send out one email reminder to members@ list about a week before each meeting. Meetings are also posted on the website and Facebook page.]
- Motion to spend \$500 on in-service breakfast on Nov. 6th breakfast. Approved unanimously.
- Which fundraising events will the PTO run this year? Should throw out ideas for smaller fundraisers in email to members@ to see if anyone is willing to take the lead.
- Do we want to do Trivia Night this year? Need to advertise much earlier and possibly to a community-wide audience rather than just within AMS.
- Treasurer's report
 - No longer have a sales tax permit. Was canceled. Only need it for raffles. Easy to obtain if needed.
 - Reported on expenditures and revenues going back two years.
- Tonja Goodwin - Winter Wonderland Event - Proposed date Dec. 6th.

- More of an open house – distinctly not conferences, but self-guided tour students/parents can explore to highlight what they're doing. Can come and go as one pleases. Dec. 6th date was the best option. Given it's a Wednesday and some may attend evening religious services, it is hoped that the "come and go" format would still allow for attendance of evening religious services.
- Opportunity for PTO to support belonging at AMS. Was presented to the leadership team (the three AMS principals).
- Highlight things students are doing through a collection of areas/display/demos:
 - Like VEISHEA (but without the adult beverages).
 - Clubs "fairs" - show what the club is about, have a QR code for signing up.
 - In/Out-Season athletic booths to highlight what's current and what's coming.
 - Teachers/Classrooms - teachers not required, but possibly a tri-fold pamphlet or poster board to highlight what students are doing. Wouldn't want to have displays in classrooms to avoid the appearance of it being P/T conferences. Would use open spaces instead (media center, cafeteria, auditorium, gym, etc.).
 - Band/Orchestra - possibly have short performances featuring students, in rotation.
 - Possibly a food truck or food for purchase since the 5:30pm start time is so close to evening meal.
- Would include the book fair since, due to changes in conferences this year, there's no current way to work in the book fair.
- Have a very rough estimate, but unsure of the final cost.
- General positive reception to PTO funding of the event. This is the kind of thing the PTO should be funding.
- Tracy pointed out that the board can approve spending outside of regular organizational meetings, so once we have final numbers we can determine how much to fund.
- Mandy raised concerns about blatant lack of respect shown by students, even around adults/staff/teachers, with apparent lack of consequence. What can be done to encourage students to be more respectful of their peers and adults?

Adjourn:

- Next regular organizational meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 21st at 4pm in the AMS Media Center.