



**PTO MEETING: 11.14.18**

**MINUTES**

**I. Welcome and Introductions:**

- a. Colleen Brower, Amy Parrott, Kanwal Hussain, Janessa Greenwood, Jennifer Caraglor, Jennifer Murphy, LeeAnn Cassidy

**II. Budget/Financial Report:**

- a. Fall fundraising efforts have been successful, see budget report for specifics.
- b. There's a surplus of funds that we discussed liquidating by June.
- c. Need to be sure purchases are tax exempt. Amy shared the tax ID information with the board members.

**III. PTO Advisory:**

- a. Joshua Smith requested all school PTO's to consider a scholarship fund for students to attend field trips. Philanthropic based on student need (See below for further discussion on this topic)
  - i. Currently there isn't a formal way the district handles this. Looking into this as a region to formalize the way this is handled at each school. It'd be advantageous to have all PTO's run it similarly.
  - ii. PTO By-Laws are all different, so it'll be challenging to work in the same way.
  - iii. What is the average cost per field trip? Some are very expensive, some are not. Is there an average cost each PTO will commit? Need to carve out the particulars re: how to handle situations.
  - iv. Marketing to families for their funds: have to say that a portion of the funds may go to field trip costs for income eligible students
  - v. Amy Parrott to contact the Connecticut Community Foundation for information.
  - vi. Mrs. Murphy to reach out to local businesses for possible trip scholarship help.

**IV. Principal's Report:**

- a. Mrs. Murphy discussed the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade activities:
  - i. The 8th Grade dance and the multitude of end of year activities can be overwhelming for staff.
  - ii. Suggesting parent chaperones for the dance as opposed to teacher chaperones. We will reach out to 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents for possible chaperones.
  - iii. The Possibility of combining both MMS and RMS 8<sup>th</sup> grades for a field trip or dance.
  - iv. Revisit having the dance the same day as graduation.
  - v. PHS has a 9<sup>th</sup> grade dance in August too. Field Day for RMS and MMS at PHS in lieu of Lake Compounce?
  - vi. Community building experiences as much as possible; social groups are fluid into high school
- b. Region Admin Counsel: United Way reported: MMS has Title 1 students who qualify for free and reduced lunch but there are several families who are just above this threshold and therefore do not qualify for Title 1 funds.



