

Washington PTO Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2022

Meeting Attendees:

Amy Quinn	Alicia Gillespie	Annie Grace
Stephanie Stang	Rachel Cole	Janene Bolt
Michelle Craig	Mark Karpf	Kim Clark-Kaczmarek – Why Arts, Inc.
Jill Gries	Emily Moody	
Lisa Price	Kelsey Fischer	

- Motion to approve April PTO meeting minutes passes.
- Motion to approve 2022-2023 PTO Board slate passes:
Pres - Emily Moody 1st VP - Abbey Jackson 2nd VP - Alicia Gillespie
Pres - Mark Karpf 1st VP - Annie Grace

3rd VP - Melanie McFarland Sec - Janene Bolt Treasurer - Dan Stockmann
3rd VP - Elizabeth Constance Sec - Kelsey Fischer Treasurer - Ope Oloyede

Guest Speaker – Kim Clark-Kaczmarek w/ Why Arts, Inc. on Dancing Classrooms

- Why Arts is an Omaha non-profit with a mission to bring arts to the under-served: adult daycares, memory centers, public schools, etc.
- Dancing Classrooms is a program pinpointing 5th graders (and possibly 4th graders), which hones in on teaching kindness, respect, inclusion, elegance, teamwork, positive communication surrounding consent, and social/emotional skills that project out to the community through dance and music. Mad Hot Ballroom (2005 documentary) depicts the beginnings of Dancing Classrooms. Omaha was the first city outside of NYC to have Dancing Classrooms.
- Dances include Rumba, Foxtrot, Waltz, Swing, Polka, Merengue, and Line Dances from around the world, with discussions on where the dances originated from.
- Dances are gender neutral with inside/outside circles in lieu of male/female dancing roles.
- Program consists of 20 total lessons: 30-45 minute lessons 2x/week.
- Program includes culminating event where students speak, introduce their families, and dance.
- There can be a curriculum connection in which students write/research, reflecting on their experience with Dancing Classrooms.
- If a school is registered to be a Unified School, ADA will pay for Dancing Classrooms program.

Principal's Report

- Focus is on Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible as school year ends.
- Mrs. Mitchell's (Deaf and Hard of Hearing KG, 1st, 2nd) position will need to be filled for next year.
- Teachers/Principal have been overwhelmed with PTO spring fundraiser communication during the past month.
- 6th grade Clapout will take place at 2pm on the last day of school.

Teacher's Report – Jill Gries, Speech-Language Pathologist

- Focus has been on verbs, sentence structure, articulation, annunciation, and speaking louder.
- Removing masks has been a huge help for the students and teachers.

Treasurer's Report

- Carnival gross receipts total = \$4978.26, with costs of \$1743.56 and approximately \$550 (still waiting for a bill)
- Spring fundraiser gross receipts total = \$15,156.25, with \$2,000 upfront cost. We are also expecting an invoice from Boosterthon for 25% of the Fun Run profit in addition to the \$2000 upfront cost, so spring fundraiser profit just under \$10,000.
- End of school year balance (doesn't include outstanding invoice costs) = \$33,169.

Spring Carnival

- 18 high schoolers signed up to volunteer, 12 came.
- Wristbands seemed to work really well. Estimated 20% of parents bought wristbands too.
- More prizes distributed, as anticipated with wristband use.
- Additional seating helped.
- Thanks to Stephanie Stang for creating new carnival signage.

Thanks for the great school year!

Adjourned