



Gates Chili Middle School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

Meeting Minutes for September 17, 2024 General Meeting

7:00pm – 8:00pm Gates Chili Middle School Library

ATTENDANCE

Executive Board Present: Meagan Todd, Mary Housel-Demanchick, Kylie DiTucci, Dan Zdanowski

Executive Board Absent: Jennifer Gelfuso

Other Attendees: Kenyala Rollins, Cyndel Hoover, Kelly Place, Meghan Jacobsen, Nicole MacBay

Meeting call to Order at 7: 10pm by Meagan

INTRODUCTIONS

TREASURER REPORT

- Reviewed proposed budget
 - Confirmed budget will be brought to October meeting and voted on

FINANCIAL REQUESTS

- NONE

OLD BUSINESS

- NONE

NEW BUSINESS

- Tanya Srbinovski has resigned from her position as Secretary
- Looking for replacements for Secretary and Fundraising Coordinator

SIT/DIT UPDATES

- DIT has been consolidated into the District Equity Team, can be removed from agenda
- SIT – we are required to have SIT and a School Improvement Plan in order to get funding as a Title 1 school
 - Would like to move forward trying a virtual model. There will be 4-6 meetings per year, and these will be recorded and shared via online platforms
 - Will also have component for students to be able to participate



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PRINCIPAL UPDATES

- So far this year, we have been able to get students outside almost every day during their lunch periods
 - Discussed moving tables closer to the tennis courts for ease of use
 - Should be able to utilize the tennis courts as weather gets cooler, as long as there is no ice coverage
- We are looking to purchase games for the cafeteria as the weather turns
 - Will be including the students' suggestions as to items to purchase
- Looking at new options for the 8th grade class trip
 - Working with First Choice Educational Tours
 - Will be having current 8th graders vote, board approved in October, info going out to parents Nov 1
 - Discussed opportunity to engage current 6th grade students for ideas for their trip
 - 3 options being discussed:
 - Niagara Falls, NY
 - Cave of the Winds
 - Maid of the Mist
 - Swap out the power vista for the aquarium
 - Still do dinner at the hall
 - Toronto, Canada
 - Lunch @ Medieval Times
 - Playdium (similar to Dave & Busters)
 - Peek'n Peak – Clymer NY
 - Zip lines
 - Indoor pool
 - Mini golf
 - Aerial adventures

OPEN DISCUSSION



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- Opinions on ParentSquare
 - Overall the group is enjoying the consolidated communication
 - Looking for more info on clubs
- Phone policy in the cafeteria
 - This is not a middle school choice, this is part of the district's new Code of Conduct
 - Decided through many sessions with input from parents, students and educators
 - 6-8th grade "off and away during the day" except when otherwise instructed (if a teacher allows them to listen to music, during lunch)
 - HS – available during passing, Study Hall, lunch, any time that is not instructional.
 - Taking this opportunity to provide options in addition to their cell phones (see games in cafeteria, getting kids outside during lunch once they have eaten)
 - What about when the weather turns?
 - Limited for the next 18 mos due to capital project
 - Tennis courts can be leveraged as outdoor space as long as there is no ice coverage
 - Students will be given a choice, they are responsible for attire etc
 - Potential for student lounge/den in future as we have had to free up some flex space for instruction due to construction

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Motion Approved - Yes: 9, No: 0, Abstain: 0