1/31/19 Meeting Minutes 2-3:15pm at the School Conference Room

Attendees

Jocelyn Apicello

Mishara Canino

Melissa DeFonce- School Nurse

Krystal Ford

Shahla Janetta

Sayaka Larsen

Alex Levine- Principle

Kristin McPherson

Ksenia Pitaleff

Elefteria Zagoreos

**Agenda Items:**

* Matt from Vending machine
* Treasury Report
* Science Fair
* Potential PTA Sponsored Events- The Talk 2.0 for Parents and screening of Malala for International Women’s Day
* PTA Endorsement- Should PTA endorse the Green New Deal and the Carbon Pricing bill?
* Fundraising ideas

**Vending machine:**

Matt from vending machine company explained what is in the vending machines and why?

“Healthy” definition is different for everyone but he follows the “school smart snack” definition/ guidelines created by Michelle Obama.

* Everything must be under 200cal of which fat content must be 35% of total cal or less
* Must have a certain shelf life
* K-5 heathy snack, cannot have drinks such as Gatorade in elementary school

Some questions/concerns raised:

* We were never told that the vending machine will be installed/Administration should of have had explained that these machines were going to be installed prior to installment
* We don’t know the nutritional contents for each of the items
* Everyone parent’s definition of “healthy” is different and the concept that vending machines are considered as a treat for kids
* Do snacks have to be $1?
* Parents may be willing to pay more money for a “healthier snack”
* Can we reduce the plastic bottles in the vending machine?
* Can we turn the vending machine off at a certain time?

Matt from vending machine’s answers and his plan:

* Snacks would be easier for children to purchase if they were $1 but the snacks/drinks. However, they can be more than $1 and we can install other snacks that cost more
* Currently it is difficult to remove plastic bottled drinks from the vending machine due to weight and size requirement. The bottles much be cylinder (ie cannot be boxed water) However, Krystal will send information about a possible aluminum water bottle alternative.
* In order for parents to decide which items we would prefer to be included in the vending machine, he will notify Krystal via email of the product that is currently in the vending machine with the nutritional value and price as well as list of all of the products (product list) he can potentially place inside our K-12 vending machine. Parents can compare the cost and the nutritional value of the products
* Every morning, Matt receives an update what was sold and around what time the vending machine was used. Hence, depending on what people want, he can program to shut down during specific time. For example, the vending machine in front of the gym to be turned off in the morning when kids walk by as they get off the bus.

In addition, Principle Levine stated that the vending machine in the lunch room were to be used mainly for kids during lunch time only

**Treasury Spending Update**

Science Fair

Field Day

PTA scholarships- $100 to an 8th grader, $250 to O’Neill and Haldane is each $250; total $600

**Science Fair Planning and Update**

Science Fair week is 3/18-3/21 with potential Science Night on 3/21 (th)

* Shahla has already started planning by looking into new trophies with GUFS logo that is cheaper than last year
* Talk to science teacher/Mr. Keegan to coordinate science fair
* WE STILL NEED A CHAIR or COCHAIR for next year
* Shahla explained some of the responsibility of chairing an event but has reminded us that it is fun and also less responsibility if there are co-chairs.

Plan: Reach out to class parents and have them send out information to each of the classroom about volunteering during the science fair. Ask people individually about possible interest of chairing/co-chairing science fair rather than sending a PTA e-mail

**Fundraising Opportunities**

The upcoming events include the workshop for parents of elementary aged children about Sex Ed Talk 2.0 (potential night 3/8), the science fair and the field day and the plan is to spend less money this year for both events. Some ideas include:

* Game night (not on school ground)

**PTA endorsement**

We can endorse a piece of legislation such as the Green New Deal and the Federal carbon bill

Send a PTA e-mail voicing our concern and an option to opt out

**Other plans/events**

* To be green, encourage the use of bamboo forks and knife and have kids bring reusable utensils for lunch/reduce the price of hot lunch for kids who use reusable utensils or through the school behavioral point system?
* 4/8 is International Women’s Day- potential idea include bringing change for the Malala Fund