**Palm Valley Academy PTO General Meeting Minutes**

**DATE:** August 20, 2018 **LOCATION:** PVA Cafeteria – 700 Bobcat Lane

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY:** Jill D’Amato **TIME:** 9:05 AM

**ATTENDANCE:** PTO Board Members: Matthew Underwood, Jill D’Amato, Meredith Atkins, Kim McGowan, Purvi Sanghvi, Jillian Schmidli, Stephanie Devincentis, Emily Morgalis, Stacy Bingham; Several PTO Chairs; @ 60 Parent members.

**MINUTES:** This is the first General PTO Meeting so there are no previous minutes to read and accept.

**OFFICER REPORTS:** N/A

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** N/A

**OLD BUSINESS:** N/A (1st General Meeting)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. What is the PTO Doing?
   1. Fundraising Target of $200,000.00 to be spent in 5 categories:
      1. Administration
      2. Teachers and Staff
      3. School Facility
      4. Community/Parents
      5. Students
   2. Funding and Priorities guided by surveys sent out to the community, teachers/staff, administration and students.
2. What we have spent money on so far.
   1. $15,000 on Teacher Mini-grants and gift cards for classroom supplies
   2. Tech Subscriptions
      1. Live School
      2. Raz Kids
   3. BooHoo WooHoo Breakfast for Kindergarten Parents
   4. Bean Bags (Big Joe)-2 in each classroom (#1 student request)
   5. Support families in need with gym uniforms and school supplies.
3. We had 3000 books donated to the school
4. Shoe Donation Drive started (collection bins in hallways and front office). Our goal is 2500 (2500=$1000) pairs of new or gently used shoes. Donation program runs through October.
5. Next Funding Priorities
   1. Playground Shade
   2. Periodicals and Sunshine State Books
6. Introduction to PTO Board and Committee Chairs
7. Jessica Richardson Joined the meeting for a brief overview of where the school is currently (different from a Coffee Chat which will focus on one topic)
   1. PVA students and staff are settling in.
      1. Started the school year with a little over 1300 enrolled and currently at 1294 students enrolled
      2. Largest enrollment is in 5th grade
      3. Smallest enrollment in 4th grade with 8 classrooms
   2. Classrooms need to be balanced by the 10th day of school so that PVA can receive money from the state (meet class rations of 18:1 (K-3), 22:1 (4-8))
   3. PVA has over 1100 grade school students which allows for another specials teacher. Mrs. Richardson has chosen to add American Sign Language (ASL) as another special.
      1. Nease and PVHS offer it as an elective
      2. ASL curriculum will be based from grade level curriculum
      3. Studies have shown that partnering visual and tactile learning help children remember more.
   4. Curriculum Chat August 20th and 21st
   5. What is happening with the playground?
      1. Area inside fence closest to the building (play structures) is useable
      2. Fields for the upper grades can’t be used yet. Waiting for it dry out so it can be rolled.
      3. There are drainage issues on the bigger playground. Low spots will be lifted and filled.
      4. Shade structures and additional equipment is in the works.
      5. Site licenses have been purchased with children’s music and activity videos for an alternative to using the playground as well as for teacher led PE
   6. Busing
      1. There is currently a double run for Bus #264.
      2. Multiple schools currently have double run bus routes.
      3. As communities grow, buses will be added.
   7. As the school grows (Prior to October)
      1. Class size over 26 = new class (K-1)
      2. Class size over 28 = new class (2-5)
      3. Class sizes over the state maximums will utilize an associate teacher
      4. After October, class size flexibility (can go over by 2 students w/o adding an Assoc. teacher)
   8. Meetings on 504 plans will start taking place over the next couple of weeks.
   9. iReady testing will begin next week. After first 9 weeks, teachers will meet with parents.
   10. The Gym is for the middle school. Every 6th grader has PE. PE for the elementary school children takes place in the covered outdoor pavilion or basketball courts.
   11. Gifted Students (grades 3-5) are in gifted blended classes
       1. K-2 gifted students are pulled out of class 1X per week for enrichment.
   12. There will be a cooler of small ice creams (e.g. ice cream sandwiches) installed in the cafeteria.
       1. It meets smart snack guidelines
       2. Parents can restrict or limit how lunch money is spent
       3. Chris Parker is the Food Service Manager
8. Q&A with PTO
   1. What are the Planned Fundraisers?
      1. Pavers
      2. PTO membership
      3. Spirit Wear
      4. Bobcat Bolt
      5. Spring Family Fun Night
      6. Spirit Nights (1X/month) at local restaurants (% of sales given back to the school)
      7. Birthday Books
      8. Birthday Marquee
      9. Scholastic Book Fairs
   2. Where can we find info about the PTO?
      1. See PTO website@ PVAPTO.org
      2. Facebook Page (Palm Valley Academy PTO)
   3. Will there be a Mascot Costume Purchased?
      1. Not this year.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Curriculum chats August 20 and 21st. Next General PTO meeting and Principal Coffee Chat is an evening meeting September 10th at 6:30PM

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT:** 9:53 AM

**MINUTES COMPILED BY:** Stacy Bingham