Jane Addams PTSA Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 5, 2018 at 7pm in the Library

1. Welcome/Introductions
2. Approve minutes from October 8 Board meeting, Kim Love
• Minutes stand approved.
3. Committee Reports
• Treasurer’s report & Annual Give update, Paul Weinstein
i. Number of donations about the same as last year, but more came in per donation. Corporate matching is the one area that lags behind last year’s campaign.
1. 255 forms collected from the office 10/1/2018-11/2/2018
2. 124 submitted with cash/check donations (totaling ~$27,000 before employer matching; mean cash/check donation ~$220, median $100)
3. 90 submitted by PayPal donors
4. remainder: form only, volunteer hours or pending donation ii. We have 34% more in the bank right now than at the same time last year.
iii. Sent $10k for 8th grade camp, and made disbursement for the Actively Learn program.
• Membership update, Julie Bisson
i. We’re at 306 paid members. Historical high was 327, so we’re hoping to at least match that. There are significantly more scholarship requests. Collected dues are up 10% from last year.
• Communications update, Julie Bradley
i. Mailing list is at 697, but that includes 200 or so who date back to the opening of JAMS. Julie should be getting the district mailing list by Nov 9.
ii. Open rate is consistently 35-40%.
iii. Thanksgiving week email will go out on Wednesday. Deadline will be earlier.
• Landscaping update, Colleen Weinstein
i. JAMS is on the Levy for February for $3.3 million. The project list includes the main entry south side shelter and amphitheater, hangout steps, parking zone. Additional dollars were included to cover field lighting, seismic work, ceiling fans and removal of the playground. Levy will need to be approved by voters in February.
ii. RAM takeover will be Tuesday, Nov 13 from 5-9. RAM will donate 10%
iii. 23 tiles have been sold. Still looking for ways to promote and create excitement for these.
iv. Colleen is working with Meadowbrook Community Council to write a proposal to Neighborhood Street Fund for transportation-related improvements. Send Colleen ideas for proposals.
v. MLK Day of caring wouldn’t work very well for Microsoft since it’s a day off for them. Should we work with Bethany for a project, or as a family-guided project? Someone would have to step up with an idea and initiative very soon to make something happen.
4. New Business • Gift Card Drive, Julie Bradley
i. Historically we’ve supplied the office with grocery gift cards to distribute to students who need food over the break. The office gives out ~75 cards for each break (Thanksgiving, Winter, Mid-winter and Spring). Julie would like leads on gift cards.
• Schools First donation request, Paul Weinstein
i. Schools First is trying to raise $350,000 to support the levies in February. As we don’t have a line item for advocacy or donations, we’d need a general membership vote to create the line item.
1. Motion proposed to call a general meeting to happen at our December meeting for the general membership to vote on adding a advocacy line item at $500, and another line item for unallocated for unanticipated requests. Motion is seconded and passed by Board vote.
• Dancing Dave funding, Paul Weinstein i. $800 is needed to cover square dancing in PE. There is money left over in the Enrichment line item to cover this expense.
• Parent Education topics, Sheryl Schwartz
i. Dates available for parent education include: Feb 28th already designated for a parent education night; May 16 General Meeting (Lisa Davidson and Daniel Adjei are available to talk about drugs and the survey, though we can change to a different topic); any other available night if we decide to add an event.
ii. General Meeting on Jan 17 will be the high school panel again
iii. Board in attendance held an informal vote on which topics they’d like to see. Kathy and Sheryl will discuss with admin about when and how to bring them in.
o Social Media/Online Safety: Film “Like” about kids and social media. (10 votes) o Sustainability o Sexuality, Relationships, Puberty and Consent: Lisa Love is SPS director/ Teen Dating Violence/Respectful Relationships (11 votes) o Drugs/Alcohol 3 o Anxiety: Film “Angst” tie-in? (6 votes) o Learning Differences: ADHD/ADD, Dyslexia, Executive Function, Processing Difficulties 1 o Preparing for High School 1 o Exploring different career paths – vocational programs, internships, etc. 1 o Study Skills o Stop the Bleed class: Department of neighborhoods grant funds this, so it wouldn’t come at a cost to JAMS/PTSA 3
5. Principal’s Report, Paula Montgomery
• Latinx night had about 80 people come for the Day of the Dead celebration. The group is already planning for next year. They’re going to ¡La Chispa! bilingual leadership conference.
• New Staff member: Sanjay is taking over financials for the building.
• Spirit assembly went well.
• Dance went well except the DJ played 4 inappropriate songs (with explicit lyrics) before security pulled the plug on him. He’d had a couple of warnings during the dance before he was finally removed.
• Cyber safety assemblies are happening with the police department. 6th grade on Thursday, 7th & 8th grade on Friday.
• House administrator is teaching a leadership class. JAMS is able to add another section of Drama, and a theatre tech class (lighting, sets, costuming) • JAMS is in the process of (hopefully) moving to 3 lunches. They’re waiting to get all the proper permissions. Scenarios might include shortening advisory, or increasing 3rd period and having split classes. This might happen by Thanksgiving.
• Families and Educations Levy: JAMS received $65K in performance pay for students who came in at level 1 and 2 on the SBACs.
• JAMS named a school of distinction based on how many kids passed the SBAC, and how much the achievement increased, outperforming the district in significant groups (like ELL). JAMS was able to accomplish this with minimal emphasis on the tests themselves. There will be an award ceremony in December, where we’ll receive a banner. It hasn’t been announced to the students.
• After school offerings: homework help, with specific subjects on different days.
• We now have a nurse 4 days a week. We had the 2nd highest nursing ratio in the district. Meeting adjourned 8:50