

MAM Fund Meeting

6-18-18

Present: Meagan Schultz, Ellie Cotter, Deb Holton, Mike Kirtley, Joe DiCarlo, Jason Puskar, Marc Roehrle, Alex Ramsey, Emily Laga, Jen Current

1. Welcome
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. **Approved**
3. Principal's Report
 - a. Budget is in good shape overall with no surprises
 - b. Enrollment is about the same.
 - c. Staff will largely remain the same with some paras changes. Maternity coverage is coming together.
 - i. Emily Jackson will be the new secretary in the fall. Ms. Sandy is training her now.
 - ii. Engineers - Went through 6 or 7 next year. MAM is a starter school for engineers
 - d. Gym ceiling should be done before the start of the school year in September. Paid for from infrastructure fund through Central Offices.
 - e. Could the Fund provide any meals for the teachers for their last few work days? They don't necessarily want it. Could we do donuts or something for their last two work days? Maybe next year
 - f. August 25th - MPS Back to School Run and Forms and Photos Day
 - g. August 31st is new family Orientation
4. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Mike Kirtley handed out 2018 report
 - i. Paid Food Right, First Stage and Discovery World
 - ii. Didn't pay nature's classroom, carry over the \$3,400 to next year - Joe was able to pay from his budget
 - iii. Didn't pay Special Education Discretionary Fund because those teachers didn't know they had access to funds so they didn't spend it.
 - iv. Simple Supper check - outstanding - Mike will follow up with Lai King
 - b. Mike Kirtley handed out 2019 report
 - i. Joe paid for certain things at the end of the year because of surplus budget
 - ii. Stings isn't in the budget next year as Joe is planning on having that money set aside in the school budget. If it has to come back later, we will add it in the fall.
 - iii. Professional Development Line Item is for the whole staff which Joe might combine with another school to offset the cost.
 - iv. CPA is taking over MPS Foundation after a MPS retirement.

- v. Conversation about how we get money from the MPS Foundation
 - vi. PTO Administrating of a fund to reimburse teachers seems to work better
5. Vote on new member
- a. Ellie Cotter is standing for election
 - b. Unanimously elected**
6. Greening Proposals and Projects
- a. Proposal for raised beds from Lisa Kingery
 - i. Wants four more raised beds for a total of \$1760 so each classroom to have their own raised bed,
 - ii. Can we get Victory Garden to build one for cheaper? MAM boxes need to be taller because they are built on cement, so Victory Garden boxes are most likely not an option
 - iii. Why are we doing these? Explanation of the process of planting, planning, harvesting, cooking and how the boxes are used 9 months a year. Goal is to embed this in the classroom so the teachers can take it over in case staff leaves.
 - iv. Explanation of process of working with MPS for new members
 - v. What will watering maintenance of new boxes look like?
 - vi. Approved Unanimously
 - vii. Joe will talk to Lisa about plans for next year and what child participation system are in place to maximize child participation - Teacher feedback has been collected and Lower Elementary is most interested in use of the raised beds.
 - b. Update on Balance Beam
 - i. Jen Current presented us with a few options of wooden balance beams, seesaws, balance poles, parkour
 - ii. Can the company do layouts?
 - iii. What will MPS allow? The options that were presented are good as it is wood product that doesn't have to be custom made.
 - iv. Joe talked about a process for how to make the nature playscape a possibility
 - v. If we gave a company a budget to work with they could bid it out which would be then be approved by the Fund and then MPS
 - vi. Joe and Jen and a Fund architect will meet with staff and MPS facilities by the end of the summer to create some proposals - Playspace subcommittee
 - vii. Discussion of budget and allocating a certain percentage of balance to dedicate to the natural playscape, in the \$30,000 range
 - viii. This would reach many children and would take little to maintain
 - c. Greenhouse Possibility

- i. Two or three school are piloting greenhouse installation so we can follow their lead to estimate future costs. We would look for matching grants and the Fund would also be involved.
- ii. Adolescent Community would love it
- iii. Greenhouses are a trend and MPS won't do hoop houses anymore.
- iv. We will watch the pilot project and see how they do and how they are maintained. MAM has had great success with maintenance.

7. Open Discussion of priorities for 2018-2019

a. Shed

- i. Shipping Container or Premade. It costs more than we would like, but need something more sustainable
- ii. Digging Area
 - 1. Area separated with dirt and maybe some rocks and stumps on the North end of the playground
 - 2. Joe hasn't heard back from MPS

b. Fall Fundraiser - Giving Tuesday

- i. Matching Families
- ii. List of companies Joe will look into a list of matching donations that work with MPS

c. Diversifying the Board

- i. Can we adjust the meeting times? Should we meet elsewhere?
- ii. New Parents don't understand the difference between the PTO and the Fund
 - 1. There should be a connection between the two groups
- iii. Need people from the Fund at Forms and Fees Day
- iv. We could put information on the bulletin board outside the office with Fund materials
- v. Could we use a different permission slip that says, "Courtesy of the Fund"? Or get a stamp that highlights field trips that are Fund sponsored?
- vi. SEC has done surveys to see what matters to people
- vii. Can we use events like the ethnic potluck to survey a more diverse group of stakeholders?
- viii. On idea is to use 6 cans that represents the areas the fund uses money for and everyone gets 3 marbles to show their interest.
- ix. Use the events with high attendance like parent teacher conferences, black history month, and the ice cream social
- x. How does the Fund reach out at events beyond Springfest
- xi. Forms and Photo Day, New Family Orientation, should be our focus for the next few months
- xii. Could we do a combined event with SEC, PTO and Fund?
- xiii. Discussion of staff professional development and diversity and inclusion initiatives

8. Springfest

- a. Friday March 29th is the tentative date
- b. Looking at different locations - Brewery, Warehouses, Fernway Ivy
- c. Meeting this week on Wednesday, June 20th so more updates to come
- d. Best Place - parking may be different and more costly next year, we also may have to work with one of their caterers