

**McKinley Middle School PTO**  
Meeting Minutes  
December 14, 2015

**PTO Board Meeting**

Call to order

**Principal's Report**

There will be an 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Junior Achievement on Friday, January 29 from 8am to 2pm. Busses are paid for by the district. The trip will focus on personal finance. There are 90 students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. There is a need for 2-4 parents to go with the group. Approximately 4 teachers will also be going. Sack lunches will be provided by the school.

Academic Lab: There are too many 8<sup>th</sup> graders with D's and F's in core courses. Mr. Warmack will provide a study hall in lieu of Academic Lab for those with D's and F's in core courses. This will affect about thirty 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

High School: study hall is being considered for all students next year - one period for each student. Some students this year have requested it. Some high school students will be at Ranken for half days next semester. Next year some students will be able to have instruction at Ranken for the full year.

Mr. Warmack asked about parents' feeling regarding requiring uniforms next year. PTO board advised it would probably not be popular with parents.

Cost of charter busses for an 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Jefferson City would be \$2000 to \$2500. It was noted that Kennard students go to Jefferson City in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

A question was asked about busses for high school basketball. Currently the school has to forfeit because there are no busses for non-league games. The district pays for busses for league games. There are 5 non-league games remaining. Mr. Warmack eliminated Chesterfield games. He kept games Rosati Kain, U-City, and Tower Grove Charter. Athletics pays for busses themselves.

Follow up from last month's meeting:

1. Teachers have been instructed to use only SIS for communicating grades.
2. Mr. Warmack has made a request for the bathroom locks to be changed (so that they can't be locked from the inside by students playing pranks).
3. The school would have gone on lock down after the shooting at Jefferson and Russell if the administration had been aware. The district security office did not notify the school about the situation at the time.

## **General Meeting**

PTO board and attendee introductions

### **Grade Level Reports**

6<sup>th</sup> grade: there will be a party at end of semester. There was some confusion about the date. It has now been set for Thursday, December 17.

7<sup>th</sup> grade: no representative available to report.

8<sup>th</sup> grade: no representative available to report.

### **Committee Reports**

No representatives available to report.

### **New Business**

The PTO Board needs volunteers to head up two new efforts that would benefit students:

1. A committee to explore grants and business partnerships.
2. A committee to explore field trip possibilities.

St. Louis Public School Foundation also makes business partnerships. A question was asked whether McKinley could ask the SLPSF for money. It was noted that there are so many schools with basic needs that are not met, that it's almost impossible to ask for extras.

### **Treasurer's report**

There was approximately \$1400 in donations through the end of November. 60% of that money goes to the general PTO budget and 40% goes to the grade level. Donations are now up to about \$2700.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade balance is low, and there is a concern that there will not be enough for 8<sup>th</sup> grade activities. There was a question about how to better communicate to 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents.

In general communication needs to be better. The current year online buzz book has only about 150 entries. A suggestion was made to get last year's buzz book. Another suggestion was to send home the fundraising letter with report cards. The PTO board will follow up with Principal Warmack. The letter could be passed out at school events. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade handed out the letter at their movie night.

There was a question about the principal's weekly call and whether he would be continuing them. The PTO meetings and fundraising effort could be mentioned on the call.

There was a suggestion to appeal to McKinley alumni. However, they typically want to fund very specific projects. Last year the alumni asked the McKinley PTO to help with their golf tournament fundraiser and the PTO declined.

Adjourn