

Melrose Elementary PTO General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 8:15 am in the Auditorium

Meeting called to order by Joyce Quirch, President at 8:20 am

Joyce welcomed everyone to the first PTO meeting of the 2017-18 school year and introduced Mr. Needleman.

Mr. Needleman, Principal

- This year he will speak at every PTO meeting and will not have Coffee with the Principal. This will hopefully increase attendance at PTO meetings and parents will now get all the important information at one meeting.
- Mandatory homework has been eliminated school wide - more about that at Back to School Night
- Parking lot leasing - the valet company is no longer leasing our lot which is a cut in revenue for us. The Church lease continues.
- LAUSD only pays for facilities, teachers, and administrators. PTO needs to keep up the fundraising to maintain all the extra programs Melrose offers.
- Attendance - We met the district goal for attendance last year which is no more than 6-7 absences per student for the year. Students who have 10 or more absences will most likely meet with school administration to see how attendance can be improved.
- This year we are down to 311 students with DHH moving to a different school. Last year we had 341 students. Next year we anticipate having about 440 students as we add 5 classrooms so that each grade has 3 classes.

Sarah Chapin, Pledge Drive Director

We are changing the name from Pledge Drive to Annual Giving. Our fundraising goal for the year is to raise \$250,000 to keep all of our programs going. The Annual Giving is the first and largest fundraiser. The kickoff will be next Tuesday at Back to School Night. Donations are accepted online and through an envelope to be returned to school. Our goal for Annual Giving is to raise \$75,000. This year we are focusing on the community as a whole. Instead of classroom competitions, we will celebrate our success with school-wide experiences. As always we strive for participation from 100% of families and any giving level is appreciated.

Katie Weber, Treasurer

School and PTO Fundraising:

- Annual Giving is first and biggest way we raise funds - this is the time we ask families to give from their pocket
- Jog-a-thon is traditionally our second largest fundraiser - we encourage students to go out to their extended family and friends to raise funds
- Laptop buy back for 5th Graders. Last year was the first year of our technology refresh and we offered 5th graders the opportunity to purchase their laptop.
- Grants - last year we successfully secured a grant for \$30,000 for technology
- Ongoing fundraisers
- Corporate donations - hoping to focus on this more this year
- Family Fun nights
- Spirit Wear

Ola May - Ongoing Fundraisers

- Amazon - PTO gets 8% of purchases that are made by going through the Amazon link on the school or PTO website. You must go through the school portal each time you purchase. Amazon Smile gives us significantly less and you cannot combine the two. Going through the website portal is the most profitable for us. Last year raised over \$5000.
- Ralphs - PTO receives 4% of purchases (last year we made over \$1300) - Parents have to renew every September
- Box Tops - have students collect and turn in to the school. Each box top is \$.10 to PTO - last year we raised almost \$500.

Joyce Quirch - President

Elections for vacant PTO Director Positions:

- Newsletter - Pamela Morejon and Jenny Kellard
- Spelling Bee - Vicky Dygard
- Fall Festival - Rebecca Genis / Sarine Jabarian
- Social Media - Pamela Morejon
- Spirit Wear - Anton Malyshev
- Teacher Appreciation - Tanner Neibert
- Spring Event - Laura Mazur
- Family Fun Nights - Michelle Sy
- Recycling - Sylvia Ceballos
- Beautification - Nora Cranley and Satya Stewart

Motion and second to elect the above Directors. Passes unanimously

Uma Sanasaryan, Communications

Oversees the weekly communication - email text to her by Wednesday. Lus90039@gmail.com

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 am

Minutes submitted by Nicola Howard, Secretary