



MINUTES

PTO Board Meeting with Principal December 19, 2019, 8:30am

Principal's office

Attendance: Linda Gillespie, Uma Simmons, Joana Canedo, Karen Markson, Vicki Spetter, Principal Harrison

Minutes:

- Auditorium renovations
 - Ceiling was painted over Thanksgiving, and the walls are up next (painting next week)
 - The city is paying for it
 - Carpet selected that matches too - will be put down in Feb (will be in aisle but not under the fixed seats)
 - Sound / Control Booth: discussion about issues, \$, etc.
 - Ed Center is in the driver's seat
 - When will they budget the money to rebuild?
 - Jamie would like stage lighting

- Big Night Planning update
 - Cheryl & Alexis are doing a great job
 - online auction
 - next meeting conflicts with the symphony orchestra concert (scheduled for 1-22)
 - Cheryl working on better logo

- Restaurant and Skate nights:
 - Restaurant Night: only 1 person showed up per Blue Ribbon, but we think people were not counted
 - Skate night: a big hit. Older kids showed up too. Maybe 75 people?
 - next date is March 6th

- Ski Trips- Wednesday trips- sign up / Registration is open now until they fill.



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-Metco dinner was a great success. About 35-40 people in attendance. David Fleishman and Mr. Harrison attended.

- Corporate solicitation letter from Becca Schulman- all set
- Funding for Affinity Groups
 - Groups of Student Color
 - Separated by gender
 - One guy came with a film crew (for the boys)
 - need funds for pizza bi-monthly
 - mini-grant? \$700 for the year
- Library Mini-grant- Patty submitted request for \$250 for March madness
- Funding for Improbable Players assembly-
 - "I'll Never do That"
 - about substance abuse (7th grade assembly) \$500
 - do we have money in the budget for this?
 - will cover vaping in this program
 - has creative arts and sciences seen / vetted this show?
 - 4 actors, 45 minutes, 15 minutes for a Q & A
- Status of Mural Project
 - awaiting proposal
- Installation of surveillance cameras in the building
 - protocols of when you can use it
 - 2 people (ie Principal & VP)
 - strong suspicion to view

-Donation letter for NYC trip has already yielded some \$

-Unplugged Game Day or Night Event- with parent chaperones
maybe on a Friday after school (or a Thursday)

PTO meeting with Superintendent - Conflict with date

- 01/07 is Just Think Expo and 10th grade open house at North
- lots of conflicts on the 7th, probably need a new date

-"Use Less, Green the Rest" free event



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Background on the auditorium:

The sound booth is in pretty bad shape. It is one of the elements of the [auditorium renovation](#) that has been under way for one year now. The PTO has 20K in reserve for this project, but we have not used the money yet because there are so many steps: painting, carpet, etc.

The biggest problem with the booth is that the architect that came to propose a solution said it would cost 300k to fix it, as it would be necessary to add an elevator/lift. So the project has not advanced.

I think it's important that we move forward with it because of safety reasons and because we should be able to invest the money we raised for the school.

I would like to propose that the Bigelow Committee for the Improvement of the Auditorium (CIA) resume meeting and discuss further actions, including how to fix the booth, how to better use the PTO money, in addition to little decision as the new paint color, carpet, etc. Last year the CIA included, as far as I remember:

Todd, Miriam (representing PoPS and the PTO), Jessica, Jaime Alberts (drama) and Patty Summa (faculty).

Who would like to represent the PTO this year? I prefer not to, but could do it if nobody else wants. But I am happy to set up a meeting soon, as I think this became urgent.

This is what to committee has worked on:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PX-wHqbjU1Bt4bnqx1ILHGMSQ-ve-1Hm4qDSb1fUhE/edit?usp=sharing>

There's more in this PTO folder:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=13FYi3RYzshcXJa2kt_LJC8m39-NmVXtb