



PSO AGENDA

PEIRCE SERVICE ORGANIZATION

Thursday, May 11, 2023

MEETING SUMMARY

I. Welcome and Introductions

Welcome to everyone in attendance. We introduced ourselves around the room.

II. Recap of Events

Community Yard Sale, Saturday April 22

- Given bad weather, huge success
- Ton of stuff dropped off from Peirce Community, lots of shoppers
- Win-win for everyone involved
- Our model was just donations, no items had a price tag. Folks seem to appreciate this.
- Items leftover were listed for free, everything was gone by morning.
- Books were donated to Open Books
- Clothing donated to Care for Real
- Feedback - folks were asking when is the next one?
- We may look to do this in the first of the year in the fall, will keep this on our radar.
- Raised \$2700, used much of this toward Teach Appreciation

Celebracion del Arte, Wednesday, April 26

- Huge event, first one since the pandemic. It's a teacher-led event, supported by PSO.
- Challenge getting volunteers to hang the art. Now that the community has seen this and experienced it, we may get more volunteers.
- Raised \$1500 after expenses for the Arts Program at Peirce
- We had about 30 vendors, parents, and tons of kids selling their goods.
- Feedback from the room: it was truly amazing
- We'll have a follow-up meeting with the teachers next week to see what we want to change for next year.
- Leftover art and silent auction items will be available for purchase at Andersonville Midsomerfest

Teacher Appreciation Week, May 1 - 5

- Room Reps handled their own classrooms
- PSO came together to do things for all of the teachers
 - Breakfast, mailroom stocked with snacks, Understudy 25% off, goodie bags with t-shirts, free glass of champagne happy hour at Uvae.
 - For future, may be nice to include a mixer of parents and teachers for parents to thank them in person, mingle together, however, also recognizing teachers may appreciate having teacher-only event. Perhaps there could be a teacher/parent mixer in conjunction with other events.
- Great feedback from the teachers, who really felt appreciation by all of these efforts
- This was a good model for us to continue with next year
- Spent \$1900 in total

III. Upcoming Events

Ms. Lebovitz to discuss teacher retirement planning

- We have 4 teachers retiring who've spent several decades at Peirce.
 - Ms. Drase 33 years at Peirce
 - Ms. Leander, 20 years
 - Ms. Delgado, 33 years
 - Ms. Leventis, 30+ years
- Next week, the staff is holding a party (they don't know) to recognize them.
- There may be other things happening for each teacher by their classrooms
- Other topics: Summer playdates can be added to the calendar, will give these to Ms. Lebovitz, Erin to forward
- August 17th is Back to School Picnic

Sports Banquet, May 23 and 24

- First Annual celebration for the students who've been in sports. Will be split between 5th/6th and 7th/8th
- Mr. Carbajal will lead this, may reach out to PSO for support

New Family Open House, June 1 - Michelle Platts, Cecilia

- Michelle and Cecilia leading this, welcome additional parent support
- Tour will be offered along with orientation

End of Year Gifting for Teachers - Helen Swyter

- Will run the same way it's been in the past, but open to any feedback.
- Planning gifts to teachers on June 2nd
- We'll be asking for donations from families, starting collecting Monday May 22, gives people 2 weeks to donate.
- Money will be divided up by Room Reps to handle gifts for teachers
- We'll include all people who work with our kids, including all who work at our school and our crossing guards.
- Teachers who don't have a Room Rep, Helena coordinates with other PSO folks to ensure hand-off of gifts to those teachers and staff. We'll give heads-up to Security Guards to let them know there will be some gift coordinators dropping gifts off directly to teachers/staff.

III. Topics of Discussion

Lauren Swihart is our PSO Treasurer. Briefly discuss our Funding Model

- PSO now has a credit card to streamline purchases, we'll put a budget together.
- If you need reimbursement for items, give to Lauren.
- Lauren will keep records of how much we're spending on what items, to inform us for events in the following year.

Changing the last PSO meeting of the year

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Looking Forward

- During our last meeting, we'll discuss events for next year
- More delegation: Michelle would like to delegate more to others next year, she took on a lot herself this year. She wants to make it feel easier for others to be involved in any capacity. Started a google sheet with events and dates. Folks can sign up to be committee leads, which we'll need for each event.
- How do we get more people get engaged with PSO?
 - Pre-K, K, 1st parent info session would be really helpful. The families in these grades may need more info and support entering the school. Families in these grades feel overwhelmed at first, we have so many events they aren't aware of / have no info about, they don't always know how to help.
 - Could Room Reps in younger grades have a Did You Know? Sheet they can share with families in the beginning of the year.
 - Room Rep communications is a strong model to use - monthly communications from the Room Reps could be really helpful. How can we be proactive next year about

- setting up Room Reps, mailing lists and volunteer levels? By the time we kick this into gear, it's close to November.
- Can someone in PSO take on the SMORE newsletter? Or can parent groups have a Parent Group Newsletter? What's the best way to reach everyone?
 - Do we need a committee to figure out these communication questions?
 - Summer fingerprint day? Include TB test mobile clinic?
 - Many questions remain. At next PSO meeting, we'll discuss dates we can set for these types of things over the summer to get ahead of the process.
 - We'll look for opportunities to reach new families with info, including steps to becoming a volunteer - New Parent Orientation, Movie Nights on the Turf, Kinder playdates.
 - Message night clear to parents - why do we need to be a Level 1 volunteer anyway? How does this impact our ability to have events and field trips at the school? Field trips can't happen without Level 1. Parents can't walk with their kids' classrooms for Move-a-thon unless Level 1.
 - We used to have a Jr PSO group - there's an interest in recreating this, if anyone is interested in facilitating this. Would be great to have this happen for next year. Any kid is welcome, you don't have to be elected to it, like with Student Council.
 - Looking to change time of our meetings next year to 3:15 in the field house next year. Feedback: this works well when the weather is nice for the kids to play on the playground, but more difficult in winter months. Perhaps we can do a virtual meeting at 6pm during winter months. Changing times will help get more folks involved. As long as schedule is set ahead of time, we should be good.

Volunteer Appreciation Celebration, May 26th

- This will be handled by the admin to celebrate our efforts

IV. Other Updates

FOP Update

- Admin will be making a call today about rain date for Move-a-thon and will communicate. Announcement will be made at school today. We may need help get the word out. Permission slips may need to be redone.
- FOP is looking for more board members next year.