

Attendance: (16) Beth Brown, Tracy Brown, Kndyia Fisher, B. Goins, Christine Haynes, Tracy Jenkins, S.Y. Mason-Watson, Chelsea Mellon, Genie Ombach, Keren Potter, Deyna Rogers, Danielle Stallings, Susannah Stewart, William Taylor, Mark Wilson, Leah Zanville

1. Welcome: by Co-President L. Zanville at 7:06pm.
2. Minutes: approved for November 14th meeting, motioned by D. Stallings, 2nd by K. Fisher, approved by 16 votes.
3. Principal's Report: skipped due to an administrator not being in attendance
4. Financial Report: by Treasurer W. Taylor
  - a. Reports provided for review
  - b. So far, our Direct Give initiative is right on target from last year. We have raised \$7500 year to date. We are behind on membership dues from last year, but on target for the amount received.
  - c. In terms of expenses, we have put more money to work this year. We bought the majority of supplies for the campus cleanup initiative. We are filling teacher grant requests and bulking up teacher and staff appreciation funds so we can do more for our teachers.
  - d. L. Zanville: The budget is what we think we can accurately predict. But one of the things we want to do is help if we are financially able to do that. Last month, we added a line item because that's what our bylaws require. We are being good stewards of your donations. This month, a separate holiday party request came up from Mr. Parker. We were already anticipating providing desserts, but in the past, this holiday party was funded by the foundation. Mr. Parker asked to use his discretionary fund for half of the holiday party and asked the PTSO to cover the remaining amount. In total, that extra amount is for \$649.41 and we are calling it "Special Project."
    - i. L. Zanville motions for a special line item, C. Mellon seconds and the motion anonymously passes.
5. Student Advocacy Report: by L. Zanville
  - a. The EMHS Angel Tree has been a huge success and will hopefully be an annual event. We have provided 26-27 students and their siblings with gifts. Thanks to everyone who has helped out with this initiative. We are wrapping gifts on Friday to protect the anonymity piece.
  - b. We have also pushed out Direct Give and Staff Appreciation asks at the same time - on top of the holidays - so we feel very confident that this was a big success!
6. Staff Appreciation and Events: by L. Zanville
  - a. S. Weis and D. Spain have missed this meeting due to some unexpected things that popped up. However, everyone is planning to meet at the school at 5am on

12/13 for the holiday breakfast. That will be it for a while, but we will be looking ahead to teacher appreciation week.

7. Corporate Partnerships: by T. Brown

- a. T. Brown has been working with C. Mellon to pull together all the information for the goals Mr. Parker shared. We have a first draft of a flier to share with corporate partners. We have these buckets:
  - i. Campus Improvements
  - ii. Student Activities
  - iii. Teacher and Staff Initiatives
  - iv. The Arts
- b. The second page is laid out as a tier system. We are still working on the tiers and the graphics. We have a \$5k down to \$250 level donations. If corporations choose to participate, they can earmark it or it can be donated into a general fund.
- c. We have put out a call for help and have listed corporations with which people might have personal connections. We will continue sharing information through social media. Any companies that might be a good fit - not just the ones listed - can be shared as well. [partnership@emptso.org](mailto:partnership@emptso.org) is the email to share.
- d. T. Brown has been meeting with a lot of business owners on the MORA corridor. She is learning that a lot of the businesses won't be donating on a Tier 1 or Tier 2 level, but they will be good partners for events. T. Brown is creating a general google spreadsheet of these partners and who owns these relationships. This master list will be on Google Drive.

8. Open Discussion (open to all):

- a. S. Stewart talked to the school nurse recently since she was also a school nurse. She is interested in serving in a liaison role for the PTSO.
  - i. W. Taylor mentions that there is a line item in the budget for healthroom support. He suggests that it would be helpful if S. Stewart has a relationship with the nurse and a dialogue to discuss the needs. There is \$125 in the budget available. All that's needed for reimbursement is a receipt. Or, we can buy things directly from Amazon or other websites if we know what is needed.
  - ii. T. Brown: This might be a Parent GPS question, but along this same line of questioning, do we have a full time school nurse?
    1. S. Stewart responds that she is on campus two days a week. She's at Greenway Elementary the rest of the week.
    2. T. Brown asks what happens if there's an emergency? Do they have to call 911? S. Stewart responds that there is a policy in place and offers to get her hands on the policy for the PTSO. It's in the nurse's office.
    3. K. Fisher says whenever the nurse isn't there, they are required to go to the main office. T. Browns follows up asking if there isn't an

emergency. What if it's something like a migraine? S. Stewart says they still have to go to the office and get assessed there. The nurse's office is locked because of HIPAA and medication. There are kids with panic attacks and it's stressful for the staff who have to deal with the emergencies (and the parents).

4. L. Zanville reminds everyone that we now have a "calm room," intended for remote counseling sessions. Students must know where it is. The counseling staff runs the room and when it's not actively in use, the students might have access to it.
  5. G. Ombach: There is also an initiative with Atrium Health and CMS, so all kids can Teledoc with doctors, which allows for less missing school. It's in the pilot phase.
  6. K. Fisher says that this is a good opportunity for Parent GPS to get out information on the calm room. If we're going to send information out, it would be helpful to have pictures and information on the location.
  7. SY. Mason-Watson wants information disseminated in multiple ways. We have a database of people who have signed up for Parent GPS. For now, we can send it out to those people who have email addresses for. There should be a link on the PTSO website. In the meantime, we can get it to our communications person (C. Mellon) and it will get out.
  8. T. Brown hopes it gets shared with the students. L. Zanville says we are not privy to all the information that is shared within the school.
  9. SY. Mason-Watson likes Tracy's idea because peer-to-peer information is very effective. And there was some discussion when we funded the quiet room that there were going to be flyers put in bathrooms on the school level.
  10. S. Stewart offers to follow up on the calm room and get pictures as a liaison with the nurse.
- b. B. Brown (on the phone) asks about the 8 hours of required parent volunteer hours. What are the needs for the PTSO? How can we find ways to volunteer? Are needs listed on the website? L. Zanville answers that we don't have the same needs as an elementary school. G. Ombach replies that those 8 hours can be any way that a person might want to help the school. If you want to be on campus, all help is appreciated. D. Stallings mentions that there is a need for cross-collaboration between groups. Band, Booster Club, etc. However, it is hard for some families to know how to get plugged in. Maybe in Mr. Parker's weekly emails, he should mention the most pressing needs (a volunteer corner). L. Zanville asked if the social media posts have been visible. There have been asks on sign-up geniuses. C. Mellon points out that we are working to get a PTSO newsletter up and running in the new year. We are sharing through Parent

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Square, on social media and in email currently. There is so much information sent out and it's challenging for families to wade through it.

- c. G. Ombach reminds everyone that there is a Spirit Night fundraiser at Hawthorne's on Thursday, 12/14, on Old Post Road. East Meck must be mentioned.
  - d. L. Zanville mentions that everything we're able to do as a PTSO is dependent on two things: The money people donate and the time people volunteer. We are so grateful to all the people who push both into the school.
9. L. Zanville adjourns the meeting at 7:50pm.