

# **WMS PTO Executive Board Meeting Minutes W/ Mark Ito**

**Monday January 14, 2019 from 10:00am to 11:00am @ WMS**

## **PTO Attendees:**

**Barbara Hirsch, Brenda Kane Nicolazzo, Lisa Fico, Moira McDade, Joelle Reidy,  
Helen Hwang, Susan McCormack**

## **Financials/Spending**

Contributions update as of 1/10/19:

- \$60,000 budgeted

- \$73,455 received (49.2% / 508 out of 1,032 families)

Family rate of contributions to the WMS PTO is currently at 47%

**Next All Parent PTO meeting:** Thursday, January 17th at 8:30 am in the cafeteria- PTO will have a few items to address- We will take a vote on some budget items. Then you introduce Dr. David Lussier at approx. 8:45 Am

Budget items needing approval from the public is for miscellaneous classroom needs including universal desks (\$4400), tissues and sanitizer. Also, Mark would like to request funds (\$5500) to train teachers in Project-Based Learning (PBL) at the Buck Institute.

Mark will talk about PBL at this meeting

## **Faculty lunches-**

Mark thanked the PTO for the last Faculty lunch. We discussed how the PTO can better provide snacks for Monthly Faculty Meetings. Ideas generated need to be discussed with the Hospitality Committee Chair before moving forward with ideas.

**-Green Initiative:** Is WMS interested in getting involved in a couple of green initiatives  
There is currently no school Green Team Club but Mark did do a Green Locker Clean-Out, where students actively recycle their waste, in December. A second clean-out will happen before the end of the year.

**-Professional Development:** Has any additional needs been discussed?

There is an Ideas Conference on "Equity and Inclusion" on a Saturday in April - 18  
WMS teachers have already signed-up and Mark's budget will fund this. The Challenge Success project is moving along and eventually money will be needed for faculty training but that has not been determined yet.

Mark spoke of an interdisciplinary STEM training program run by an organization called I2 but they train teachers for free. There might be costs associated with implementation down the road.

**-CAS: MLK speaker?** A reminder that money is available in the budget if needed.

Mark declined extra money for a speaker as they already have the day planned with a musician.

**-Misc. Classroom Needs:** Update on purchases made- Tissues-Hand Sanitizers-  
Filters, cameras, science cabinet and skeleton- any other needs been determined?

There is an idea to bring coding robots to Maker Space but the funding will likely come from WEF.

The meeting ended with an update on the New Hire for METCO Director. Once she is settled in Barbara/Brenda will approach her for a date on the Annual METCO-hosted All-Parent WMS PTO Meeting.

A Central Council Update was given. Meeting focused on diversity issues especially as it pertains to new families and making them feel welcome in our community. We discussed having the WMS PTO Newsletter translated into other languages.

