

Date: 9/20/2023

In-Person Meeting w/Zoom Option

Time: 9:00AM

Meeting Highlights

Total Attendees: 13 in-person, 13 via Zoom

## Mr. Jones Report

- Enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year is on point to not lose any staff.
- Welcome to Ms. Gina Pomera (new AP), she started right after curriculum night and has Dr. Hill's previous office.
- Spoke about new staff and the importance of communication from PTA and committees. PTA can communicate via Ms. Scott and vice versa.
- Reflections deadline has been postponed to Oct. 16th.

appropriately.

- Boxes for candy donations for the Fall Festival are set out.
- PBIS store is in full swing and the kids are loving spending/saving their Mason lion bucks.
- Update on school security and safety:
  - All staff now have an alert button they wear with 2 modes:
    - Immediate call for administrative support- a signal will come up on staff
      - computers as well as cell phones with the signaled staff's name and exact location where they are, including a map of how to get to them.
    - Second mode is the ability to lock the entire school down from their badge.
  - The vestibule installation will be finished in the next few weeks. This is a district-wide initiative in all Gwinnett County schools.
    - Once the vestibule is finished, there will be 2 buzzes to gain entry to the school.

The first is the bell button outside with verification of visitor's ID. The second button is inside the vestibule, where there will also be a document projector. Visitors will place their ID in the Raptor System, which will also be inside the vestibule, and the Raptor System will automatically check the visitor's ID across all systems ensuring said visitor is allowed in schools.

- The goal of the vestibule safety system is to limit visitors from entering the school. Students will be brought to parents inside the vestibule to minimize school entry. For meetings, visitors will check in and wait in the vestibule and at the time of the meeting, they will be buzzed into the school and directed
- Visitation process within the vestibule will be adjusted for parent luncheons, grandparent day, etc.

• The vestibule is bullet resistant. Mr. Jones noted although this is not an ideal

topic but safety of the school is the highest priority.

- Fire Alarm System Overhaul- updated over the summer.
- Changed all the cameras in the building to high resolution cameras, another nod to increasing safety features.
- Intercom system was removed and is now much louder so staff can hear around the school premises.
- Teaching and learning at Mason is still the top priority every day.

## **President's Report**

- Lion Stomp (Fri. Sept. 29th): Regarding staff questions of process for day of, focus right now is on promoting donations.
  - Would like teachers to turn in donations as they get them instead of saving them for the last day in order for PTA to have adequate time to distribute prizes.
- Lauren Rogers (Room Parent Lead) will send out an email to room parents to ask their classes for water donations for Lion Stomp, as well as several bags of candy for the Fall Festival parade. Any candy is ok except for lollipops. Box for candy donations is near the Reflections poster near the library.
- Coordinated with AJ's ice to partner for Lion Stomp.
- Mark (APD) will ask for volunteers at the first APD meeting Fri. Sept. 22. to help with water bottle collections and distribution on the day of Lion Stomp and help with a water station near the Bunten Rd tennis courts.
- Tara Carter (Yearbook) and Lauren Rogers will be taking pictures of Lion Stomp for the yearbook and asked any parent volunteers to submit any pictures they take to Tara for the yearbook.
- The schedule for what time classes will be walking will come out next week- needs approval from Mr. Jones and to coordinate student lunches.
- Individual prizes will continue to be handed out up to Sept. 29th, also class incentives for most participation will get an ice cream and pizza party.
- T-shirt forms, money, and permission slips can still be sent in, however t-shirts have already been ordered and if a size was not selected, it was filled in with a guessed size.
- Every student must have a permission slip in order to participate in Lion Stomp.

## Vice President's Report

- We have 262 PTA members, including 84 faculty and staff members, 179 parents, 15 blue tier memberships and 12 red memberships.
- Goal is still 100% membership.
- Continue to find a way to re-engage parents after Lion Stomp.

## **Treasurer's Report**

• Report follows minutes.

#### **Committee Reports**

## • Reflections (update provided by Rasika Wijeratne and Tara Carter)

- Extended deadline to Oct. 16th.
- Need to promote to all participants that they get an ice cream party in the middle of the school day just for participating.
- There will be an awards breakfast and Mr. Jones will pass out awards. Finalists will be awarded at the Hudgins Art Center.
- Mentioned need to possibly increase Reflections budget next year.
- More info on the PTA website and questions can be emailed to Rasika at reflections.masonespta@gmail.com.
- Room Parent Lead ( update provided by Lauren Rogers)
  - Emailing all room parents about water donations for their classes for lion stomp as well as chaperone sign ups and Lion Stomp prize distribution.
- Cultural Arts (update provided by Lauren Rogers)
  - The first cultural arts event (Big Canyon) for 1st, 3rd, and 5th is scheduled.
  - 2nd and 4th will have a local author come into the library next Tuesday.
  - Kindergarten will have a nature event also.

## • Yearbook (update provided by Tara Carter)

- Any parent volunteers at Lion Stomp are encouraged to take pictures of their students and classes and email to Tara for the yearbook.
- Send pictures of anything school related (1st day of school pictures most recently) to <u>masonespictures@gmail.com</u>.

# • Spirit Night (update provided by Autumn Wilson)

- o Brought in almost \$500 with Jeremiah's at open house.
- Had the highest month so far with Papa John's. Want them to bring in the pizzas for the Spooky Dance so the school can get credit since it will be on a spirit night.
- Chick-Fil-A is doing ok, difficult since parents need to sign the front of the manila envelope inside and place receipts in for the classes to get credit.
- When ordering on the app, using the code "Mason" the "M" is case sensitive and needs to be capitalized for it to count.
- Still waiting on Main Event for a night in Nov and possibly Top Golf sometime in the spring.

## • Duluth Fall Festival (update provided by Kim MacLeod)

- **o** Duluth Fall Festival- September 30<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Mason will have a decorated truck with a trailer in the parade. Inviting students to ride and parent volunteers to walk alongside.
- Goal is to recognize Mr. Jones as his last parade at Mason.
- Waiting for the schedule for the parade line up so it can be shared with the school.
- Best way to walk with the Mason truck in the parade will be to park at the school and use the shuttles.

- Asking for parent volunteers to help distribute candy and walk with their students in the parade.
- Box for candy donations is next to the Reflections poster near the library (no lollipops).

## • Hospitality (update provided by Christina Volling)

- Jeremiah's did a teacher's event and gave every student and teacher a ½ off coupon to use. They also donated a pencil/ruler kit to every student at Mason.
  - They also donated several art kits that the school can use for raffles. Tara Carter mentioned that APD's are looking for raffles to give away in the mornings and that they could possibly use them.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM

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Mason PTA Treasurer's Report May 17, 2023 Presen August 24, 2023

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