

# Roseville Merryhill PTOM GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: February 24, 2023

Meeting Time: 5:00pm

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## Roseville Merryhill Elementary Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES

*Friday, February 24, 2023, 5:00pm*

*In Person*

**Attendees:** PTOM Board, Merryhill Administration, Parents/Caregivers

**In attendance:** Grant Volk, Kiran Datta, Tiffany Sun, Bobby John, Gaby McLean, Barbara Jachniewicz, Chris Blanco, Steena Blanco, Amika Kakalia, Rita Kakalia, Gina Volk

Meeting facilitated by: Grant Volk, PTOM Board President  
Meeting called to order at 5:05pm

### **I. Opening / Greeting / Background (Grant Volk)**

- Welcome
- Background and Update: See PowerPoint slides

### **II. Discussion of the role of the PTOM (Grant Volk)**

- See PowerPoint slides: Grant explained that based on some initial research, found some PTOs have mandatory volunteer hours while others charge nominal membership fee. Given late start of PTOM this year, won't implement either this year. Invited feedback from group on what PTOM could be in future. Noted that in the past, meetings had more attendance, PTO was more robust and helped pay for things (e.g. paying for music room risers), PTO also helped with a lot of school events
- Possibly low involvement / turnout is likely a result of pandemic
- Mr. John suggested that PTOM could consider holding members meetings with an event, if student is involved, parents more willing to come out. In the future, if looking for more participation, hold meetings right before or after an event.
- One idea is that since PTOM is separate 501(c)(3) separate from school: in May, there is a Big Day of Giving. Entities such as Golden One Credit Union will match dollar for dollar of donations made to a charity – something to look into.

### **III. Past Events Debrief –Valentine's Day Cookie Decorating Event (Grant Volk)**

- What worked well: attendance, everyone likes cookies. Everyone came together, no one siloed themselves, built nice community – everyone wanted to spend time together
  - What didn't work well: felt chaotic because of large turnout. One table didn't know what the other table was doing, everyone was looking for instructions. Can do better in laying out what we expect to happen.
- Flyers really helped with RSVPs. Had total of 113 RSVPs, only a few didn't show. Good learning / growth opportunity

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- When see messages pop up through Remind, sometimes forget about it and may not see message again. Helpful to have a flyer go home with student, and/or sending additional reminders through Remind
- Mr. John noted he also went to every class reminding students of the cookie decorating event. Maybe next time, PTOM member can go to each classroom to tell students about event, get students excited so they tell parents. Key is to get students involved
- At event could have written instructions for what to do, post it up, or leave at each table
- Need better planning for pricing
- Could separate younger group to be on the side, not so much part of competition, they just wanted to eat and decorate. It was nice to see older kids. As first year family at Merryhill, it was nice to see what grandchild can look forward to.
- In future, consider presenting / advertising the event to parents as a fundraising event. By noting it's a fundraiser, can keep admission price low, but parents might be inclined to give more than admission price.

### **IV. Treasurer's Report (Kiran Dutta)**

- Report on Valentine's Day Cookie Event – see PowerPoint slides. Explained that since we don't have enough to reimburse for some of the items, they will become non-cash donations
- PTOM Bank Account: administrative issue with opening up bank account, plan to go back next week after holding today's meeting.
- Moving forward, everything will be maintained in independent account
- We started at \$0 in terms of initial budget.
- Our expenses for the Valentine's Cookie event exceeded the income
  - Need to keep in mind what other events are coming and need to price it right. Could increase cost of admission for event to cover supplies
  - Big Day of Giving
  - Donation – consider having parents give cash donations,
- Will provide a treasurer's report at every meeting for transparency. If want more details– let Kiran know

### **V. Presentation of the bylaws and vote to change name of organization (Grant Volk)**

- See PowerPoint slides: current entity name under Article I of bylaws is "Parent Teacher Organization Merryhill – Roseville." To be consistent with name filed with Secretary of State and Articles of Incorporation, need to revise name listed under Article I of bylaws to "PTOM – Roseville, Inc."
- Grant moved to change the organization's name in the by-laws, this was seconded
- Motion passes, all vote to approve (11 voted to approve)

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### **VI. Discussion of events for rest of school year (Grant Volk)**

- Mr. John notes that for St Patrick's Day Pancake Lunch: last year, student council packed up silverware / syrup
  - School needs help with making the pancakes on day of, and getting all the supplies (pancake mix, etc).
  - Student council will help with distribution
  - On day of (Friday, March 17) everything needs to be ready by 11:25am.
  - Need 325 pancakes made. School currently has 2 griddles. If could get around 5 parents to cook the pancakes, from 8am – 11am, should be enough. (Last year, was able to do it with just 2 people). Depends partially on how many cooking stoves we have
  - Need supplies to be delivered by March 13<sup>th</sup> – Monday
  - Send through either flyer or general information
  - Another thought is to try asking IHOP to donate pancakes and just have green whipping cream
  - Instead of sending out list of supplies for parents to sign up to bring in, could just convert to donation to PTOM. Have suggested amount of \$5-\$10 per child for parents to donate in cash (minimum \$5). A few parents said they would prefer to just donate cash for the event rather than having to go buy an item to contribute
  - Mr. John concerned that last year, this was a free event
  - PTOM bank account should be set up prior to soliciting donations.
  - Amika volunteered to price out all the needed items from Costco so that we have sense of how much total is needed to purchase all the supplies
- Movie Night Event:
  - Discussed whether Friday or Saturday night is better for this event. 5 parents voted for Saturday while 2 voted for Friday. (Noted that Friday nights might be hard for certain working parents)
  - New Proposed Date / tentatively scheduled for: April 1st, Saturday, possibly 7pm
- Overall, if more parents knew what PTO was and what it does, then that might help with getting more involvement
- We should have virtual meeting option by video / zoom. That can help with attendance. Noted that this meeting was held in person in order to vote on the amendment for by-laws

### **VII. Open Forum (led by Grant Volk)**

- School should consider offering more after school activities such music lessons, extra sports activities for children to participate, tutoring

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- Maybe take a survey of what parents are interested in, and then find teachers for whatever activity is most voted on. Would be paid lessons
- Mr. John noted that the challenge is how many would be interested. For example, last year offered piano lessons but there was not much interest
- Challenge is how do we send a survey and then follow through
- Soccer / basketball: Could be once or twice a week; Even now have once a week activities
- Everyone will have different connections

Meeting ended at 6:13pm