

**MASON PTO  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 17, 2017**

**Jeff Somers**  
President

**Katie Batts**  
Vice President

**Kelly Sendoykas**  
Treasurer

**Kris McKean**  
Recording Secretary  
& Membership

**Krista Somers**  
Corresponding Secretary  
Communications

**Valerie Albright**  
School Board  
Observer

**Jennifer Amori**  
Fundraising  
Chair

**Cynthia Latimer**  
PTO Council  
Observer

**Kim Rahi**  
Volunteers  
Chair

**Kristen Rubart**  
ASD Emissary  
& Membership

**Amy Schubert**  
Hospitality  
Chair

**Andrea VanBecelaere**  
Volunteers  
Chair

**Roy Bishop**  
Principal

**Gina Green / Margarete Scheich**  
Teacher Representatives

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~ IN ATTENDANCE ~

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Valerie Albright  
Jennifer Amori  
Katie Batts  
Roy Bishop  
Gina Green  
Kris McKean  
Kim Rahi  
Kristen Rubart  
Margarete Scheich  
Amy Scubert  
Kelly Sendoykas  
Jeff Somers  
Krista Somers

**GUESTS:**

Charmaine Fuller  
Elizabeth Hubbell  
Anna Kociba  
Jill Martin  
Jennifer Michalski  
Marianne Mouton  
Emily Rennpage  
Nicole Richard  
Luis Santiago  
Amy Weglarz

**ABSENT:**

Andrea VanBecelaere

**President's Call to Order – 7:10 p.m.**

**PRESIDENT'S REMARKS – Jeff Somers:**

- Minutes from August 18, 2017 meeting were approved.
- No additional remarks.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Roy Bishop:**

- Mason's Annual Report was presented and copies were distributed.
- "Character Time" was formally activated this week. Takes place on Mondays, from 11:30 a.m. – 11:56 a.m.
- There is a new grading system in place for math. It uses symbols to indicate if a child is performing as expected; surpassed the goal; or needs more attention in certain areas. More info to come on this topic.
- Mason is a Title I school. We have a high percentage of low-income students, who qualify for assistance. The program was designed to help students achieve proficiency in academic areas. Funding is provided to subsidize the nutritional; emotional and scholastic needs of children who might not otherwise succeed.
- Mason has an emphasis on a School Improvement Plan. Culture and Climate is our most important initiative.
- Peace Pole has been and will be dedicated soon.
- M-Step test results are very important. Opting out of the testing is not permitted. Funding is affected when school participation falls below 90%. Testing is attached to a student's record and is an important tracking tool. Achievement goals are monitored and this allows for providing support when necessary and for providing appropriate challenges, when it would benefit the child.
- Library is in need of replacement furniture and is requesting funding.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT Continued– Roy Bishop:**

- Mindfulness Training is being planned for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. The cost is \$2,500. A grant for \$1,000 is being sought to offset the cost.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS****FUNDRAISING – Jennifer Amori**

- Progress is being made in acquisitions for the Spring Fest. To date: Goldfish Birthday Party - \$450 Value; Detroit Kid City – 1 Month Unlimited; Robot Garage – 3 Month Family Drop-in.
- Donation letters to go out soon.
- Haunted Garage tickets are available online. They will be sent home with students through teacher folders. To date, we have pre-sold 6. Last year, 120 were sold at the gate. We made \$628 in 2016. We get 40% of the gate. Mason's day is October 29<sup>th</sup>, but if you buy at school, you can go any day. Flyers will go home next week.
- Other ideas:
  - \$1 Valentine Gram
  - Veteran's Day Coupon Book from Carson's are \$5, we could sell and 100% of proceeds come back to Mason (Amy Schubert has details.)
  - Mr. C's Car Wash (Jeff Somers has details.)
  - Consider more adult-oriented event. Progressive Dinner, using area restaurants as a fundraising social was suggested. Katie Batts will follow up with local venues.

**HOSPITALITY – Amy Schubert:**

- No report on Hospitality.

**VOLUNTEERS – Kim Rahi & Andrea VanBecelaere:**

- The lunch schedule has been filled through December, with a few vacancies in November.
- A sign-up genius still available to fill in any holes.

**SCHOOL BOARD OBSERVER – Valerie Albright:**

- Emailed a summary of observations from September to all Board members.
- October meeting was not attended.
- Focus continues to be on residency issues and how to better address budget deficits and the expanded purpose of our physical plants. Plante Moran representatives have toured our buildings and are analyzing data. Recommendations to come.

**PTO COUNCIL OBSERVER – Cynthia Latimer:**

- Council discussions centered around various fundraising efforts. Most do the same things we do, with the exception of progressive dinners, which we would have to adapt to our community, if we decide to do them.
- There is a PTO scam going, where people are getting phone calls requesting funds. We should alert parents.

**ASD EMISSARY – Kristen Rubart:**

- Friendship Program is making progress. Questionnaires were sent home by Mr. Bishop and Brandy Rokicki and pairs have been formed. Small groups will be clustered, based on their profiles.
- First activity to take place on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Tracey Gillette is requesting a grant to support "Story Champs" as part of speech therapy. This is not exclusively designed for ASD and will support other learners, as well.

**TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE – Gina Green:**

- Thank you from Lisa Auoud for wobble stools.
- Mrs. Scheich and Mrs. Court will fill in during maternity leave. Transition occurring now.

## BOARD REPORTS

### **CORRESPONDING/COMMUNICATIONS SECRETARY – Krista Somers:**

- To date, we have 18 scarecrows for the Fall Fest contest. Prizes will be awarded through a random drawing. There are three themes and each group will win a prize.

### **RECORDING SECRETARY – Kris McKean:**

- No report as Recording Secretary, but spoke on progress on the membership drive. We have 109 members, including teachers and staff. Mrs. Green's class won the drive, with nearly 70% participation. Ice cream with Mr. Bishop will take place on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **TREASURER – Kelly Sendoykas:**

- Provided updated hard copy of current budget.

### **VICE PRESIDENT – Katie Batts::**

- Fundraising goal for the Fun Run has been met and is expected to surpass \$18,000. We hope to meet Mr. Bishop's challenge to achieve \$20,000.
- Fun Run will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will be divided into three sessions (1:00 – 1:45; 1:50-2:35; 2:40-3:25)
- More publicity will go home on Wednesday 10/18.
- Continue to push "shout-outs" at \$5 each. Add 'shout-outs" to those who donated.
- Bagels; cereal bars and water bottles will be refreshments – replacing popsicles. All have been donated (Eastside Bagels and Trader Joe's.)
- John Rubart to play our Super Hero.
- **Fall Fest Update:** We have gotten 200 pumpkins from Michigan Growers, free of charge. The bounce house will cost \$200 and we will pick up and set up. Two-hundred tubs of cotton candy have been donated and TCBY gave us 350 coupons for kid-size cups.

### **GUEST COMMENTS:**

- Consider creating a PTO calendar, which would include PTO sponsored events, so that parents can anticipate them in advance and know what their expenses might be.
- Parents for Diversity meeting to take place, Thursday, October 19 at Maire. Childcare will be provided. This is a district-wide group. Info to go in teacher newsletters each month.

**Jeff Somers called for a motion to adjourn. Katie Batts motioned – seconded by many voices.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.**

**Next meeting: Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> – 7:00 p.m.**