

Fowler Middle School  
Thursday, May 19th, 2022  
7:00-8:00pm

## PSO Meeting Notes

### 1. Called to Order

At 7:05 pm on May 19th, 2022 on Google Meet by PSO President Tonia Banks.

### 2. Welcome & Introductions

### 3. Attendees

Andy Van Fleet, Marnie Watts-Tupou, Wendy Jenkins, Amancia Kaushal, Chad Ripper Heather Champion, Jacqueline Lindsey, Kim Matsler, Kristi Sloan, Laura Mann, Andrea Johnson, Ryan Gamo, Shelly Smelser, Tonia Banks, Tracy Johnson, Jacqlyn Proper, Emily Ripper, Jen Vaskiek, and Sienna V.

### 4. Old Business

- The minutes of the April 20th, 2022 meeting were not ready in time to review and approve at this meeting. Secretary, Jacqlyn Proper will complete and email out to the PSO to review and vote approval at her earliest convenience.
- Amendment as of June 13, 2022 - The April 20th minutes were reviewed and approved.

### 5. Principal's Report - Andy Van Fleet

- It's been fun to see the students' excitement to hold Jamborees in basketball and soccer over the last couple of weeks.
- Almost done with OSAS and iReady testing that happened to be scheduled back to back this year. In upcoming years we will be more diligent in spreading the tests further out as they are exhausting for the students.
- Starting tomorrow we will be pushing out a minute to win it ping-pong competition game in the morning sessions to help get back into the spirit of school.
- TTSD is posting new health teacher positions for all middle school grade levels beginning next year to provide education around mental health.
- Announced today TTSD has created three new Associate Principal positions, one at each of the three middle schools. Looking to roll out a new multi-tier system of support in which this new position will play a key role in outreach and oversight of all the different domains of the school and to work with kids and partner with families. We are already starting to meet with District Office to discuss the dozing of positive support the schools will need at the start of the

year. We now know our kids and know where we need to pivot and where we need to adjust.

- Within a multi-tier system of support, students have different needs, some are thriving and doing well from the social/emotional learning standpoint, grades are fine, and behavior and attendance are great. We push out green zone lessons for the entire school and will work with about 80% of our population. This year, we are seeing yellow, and the tip of the triangle is a little bit bigger than in previous years. There is more need for specific interventions whether that is a connection with an adult, or putting together a strategic plan like a check-in/check-out process. Communication is given to the administration at the end of the and can go home with the parents. All of this is in review, and in the process to go next year. There are different pieces, layers, and levels, all of this is to work with the behavior, attendance, and academics to support our students regardless of where they all are.
  - Parent Comment: Believes this system could work the way it's attended to work, absolutely, 100 percent behind that, but the way the culture and environment right now amongst the students is the main concern for me. In this culture and environment, you can't use the system the district is telling you to use until you get this culture and environment in place. We know we can't make that happen before the end of the school year. I speak for a lot of parents when I say we need to understand what is going to happen in September to prepare them that this is how it's going to be but also to foster that culture and environment. Ideally, they start to police themselves.
    - Mr. Van Fleet: I appreciate that, Brian Penny one of our 8th-grade counselors, is adamant about bringing on board a peer counseling program for 8th graders and doing some of that too. It will be neat to have that mentorship piece come from students as well.
  - Parent Comment: You're talking about the portion of kids in that green zone who are getting good grades and not having any behavior concerns, and they're succeeding. I like to add a footnote to that, my daughter is a 4.0 student, has great behavior, and is positive about things and yet she is having a challenging time. Want to put it out there that even your green zone kids aren't necessarily green they just might have better strategies of coping. We should go out of the gates as everyone is yellow, we've had a lot of great coping strategies the last couple of years and some kids are just better at it than others.
  - Parent Comment: Is the health class more of a resource? What will that look like for the students this coming year?
    - Mrs. Watts-Tupoi: All the things we are experiencing at school today, and the concerns you all are expressing are all health-related in some aspect: mental, physical, social, and emotional. A couple of years ago a semester of health was added at 8th grade, but that is too late, our students need more support

in 6th grade. Next year nine weeks to a semester at each grade of purely focused on health education everything from physical health, nutrition, mental health, conflict resolution, social-emotional learning, and disease prevention. Again, this isn't going to be the fix, but it will be another layer of support. They are telling us, yes they need more, they don't know how to deal with the things they are experiencing. This 9-12 weeks sequence is not a lot of time, we will build on it throughout their middle school career. We are also getting the Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum for our morning meetings class and currently, we do at least one lesson a week that ranges from teaching basic expectations to identifying what they want to see happen to make them feel safer.

- Parent Comment: Like to find creative ways to figure out how to deal with all of the disrespect the teachers are experiencing and the feedback on the recent survey of students commenting that they just want to learn but are unable to due to other students being disrespectful. How creative are you allowed to be with discipline or consequences when being disrespectful? I have experience in working with teenagers and would love to come in once a week with those students and sit and listen, or sit and work through worksheets together or sit down and have them think about it. Feel many of them don't get the time from other adults in their lives of being listened to and I would 100% make the time to do that. Can parents with experience come in and give those students the time that you can't?
  - Mr. Van Fleet: To that point, that is what we are trying to do with the Dean of Students, counselor, and admin by coaching our students through the decision-making process. Unfortunately, there is never enough time in the day to go as deep as we want to make a meaningful change. Yes, we can't open it up to just any parent that wants to come in to have access to kids and have that conversation, but depending on what the credentials are it may be a partnership with the District Office does this fit in somewhere? I will reach out to my Director, and express there is interest and what that process would look like. Community partnership is something we are invested in, let's keep this conversation going.
- Parent Comment: We have parent volunteers coming in to be hall monitors and lunch supervision, happy to keep it going if it is valuable, but doesn't seem like a very sustainable solution. Is the District hearing your need for that and is that something you will get?
  - Mr. Van Fleet: We have been communicating the need, but have not heard hall monitor or additional student support is coming as of yet. Appreciate you asking, as clearly there is a need, and hopefully we will bring this to fruition.

- Parent Comment: I saw a question posted in the chat “How are teachers dealing with the current climate?” I wanted to address this as I’ve heard from two different staff members that some teachers are afraid to be in the halls, and they are not handling it well. If we have good teachers, and they don’t feel safe, we don’t want to lose them. I just want to make sure that is known.
  - Mr. Van Fleet: From what I’m seeing, there are teachers in the halls, fully embarrassing our students and being an active presence. Though, yes, the behavior could be better.
- Parent Comment: Do alternative schools still exist and is there a threshold for certain behaviors that may not be a good fit for Fowler or mainstream school? Just curious if that is still a conversation that still happens or if they just keep them mainstream despite any unsafe behaviors.
  - Mr. Van Fleet: Our school district's part is mainstream through 8th grade, once you go to 9th grade there starts to be more options. It is a very high behavior threshold before there is a true alternative placement. Generally, that is associated with an IEP change of placement or law enforcement intervention.

## 6. Vice Principal's Update - Marnie Watts-Tupou

- One of the things we do to recognize our teachers for being out in the halls is what we call Hall Stars where they get a ticket and then do a weekly drawing for a Starbucks gift card that the PSO has provided. They have been so amazing in providing that additional support, thank you. We told the teachers that we would double down the last four weeks, and I just realized we were short on gift cards and hoping you could purchase us what is needed to get through the end of the year. We need 16 more cards at \$5 each for a total of \$80.
  - Committee voted and approved this request.

## 7. New Business - President, Vice-President, and Treasurer

- Presidents - Wendy Jenkins and Tonia Banks
  - i. Our special guest, Mr. Penny our 7th-grade Counselor, unfortunately, is not able to attend this evening to place his request.
    1. A couple of summers ago, a Fowler family lost their child in a boating accident at Hagg Lake. The family is still grieving and would like to install a memorial bench at the lake. Washington County parks system has regulations on the type of memorial bench that can be purchased and installed. If the funds are provided for the bench, the county will install the bench per their specifications with plaque.
    2. Would the PSO be able to provide funds for this project or open to allow people to donate individually? The current estimate is between \$1,200-\$1,500 for the installation and bench.

- a. Suggest placing an announcement in the newsletters to invite families to donate and that the PSO would match the funds raised.
  - b. Perhaps the family started a Go Fund Me and the PSO could promote it.
  - c. Need to ensure that the donations are appropriated correctly, unsure where donations are allocated when donated to Fowler vs. PSO.
  - d. We are currently in May, and the school year and budget are wrapping up. Could we see in the Fall where the Go Fund Me balance is at then when we gather again in the fall we could promote heavily?
  - e. Not that we don't want to support this meeting, but we need to take into consideration what our matching amount might be, as we want to ensure we can cover all of the year-end events.
    - i. Committee voted to table this request until they have a chance to review the current budget. In the meantime, please contact Mr. Penny if you would like to donate now.
- Need to select officers for next year's board - Wendy Jenkins
  - i. Secretary - nominated Jacquelyn Proper
  - ii. Treasurer - nominated Claire Kolkoski
  - iii. Co-Presidents - nominated Heather Champion and Tonia Banks
  - iv. Vice-President - unfilled
    - 1. Committee voted and approved the placement of these positions for next year's board.
    - 2. Current Treasurer, Claire Kolkoski, will remain on Columbia Bank as the signer.
    - 3. Incoming Co-President, Heather Champion, will be added to Columbia Bank as a signer.
    - 4. Current Co-President, Tonia Banks, will not be added as a signer.
- Treasurer - Claire Kolkoski
  - i. See detailed report from August 21-April 22
    - 1. Revenue: \$6,030.00
    - 2. Expenses: \$3,603.44
    - 3. Ending Balance: \$34,489.20
- 8th-grade Celebration
  - i. Superplay has been confirmed for June 15th
    - 1. Unlimited bowling and shoe rental, arcade, two slices of pizza, and soda

2. As they will be back before school ends, perhaps we can do snow cones or field games to round out the remainder of the day for them.
- ii. Do they need chaperones? Are teachers going with them?
    1. Mrs. Watts-Tupoi: This side of the planning has been on hold until the date and place was determined. All the 8th-grade peer teachers will be going, but places like this typically have a student-to-parent ratio, if you could figure out what that is we would know if we need parent volunteers too and how many buses to reserve.
- Student Store - Andrea
    - i. Open every week with volunteers lined up for the rest of the year, and with the nicer weather, we introduced otter pops.
    - ii. We are still in need of donations, particularly for stuffed animals which are a huge hit.
    - iii. Parent Comment: Could we please stop selling the microwave popcorn as It's causing lots of arguments while students are waiting in line?
      1. Thank you for bringing this concern forward, the store has already purchased a lot, so will have to sell until its inventory runs out.
      2. It's also a gluten-free alternative for students who have that need.
      3. Happy to look into other alternatives in the future.
      4. Perhaps move a lunch volunteer to monitor the microwave line.
    - iv. Andrea is happy to run the store next year.
  - Dining Out - Tracy Johnson
    - i. May: Crumble Cookies was tonight
    - ii. June: Menchies
      1. Tracy will not be with Fowler next year and is seeking someone to replace her for this position. Please reach out to Tracy to hand off all of her information and email account.
  - Volunteer Coordinator - Jen Vaskiek
    - i. For lunch supervision, we have had at least one person come for both first and second lunch since we started, but our four slots per lunch are starting to gain momentum and seeing more of a turn out of volunteers.
      1. Question for Administration - is this something we want to keep doing, stop doing, do more of, do less of?
        - a. Mr. Van Fleet: I'm hoping we will have time over the spring and summer to discuss how we bring our parents into the school. I would love to be more around an academic purpose or other support than just monitoring, but let's keep the conversation going. Our goal is not to have lunch monitoring.

2. Parent Comment: I'd like to assist in getting more parents involved with the school, feel it would be great to have a larger front that includes a lot more minority groups in the school. Like to have a united front in the schools to make the environment what it needs to be. Want to jump in and help as much as we can, need to have a diverse group of parents as well, not sure how to make that happen, but want to help.
  - a. Jen Vaskiek: Please let me know if you have any ideas on how to get those parents involved.
    - i. Perhaps a table out at back-to-school events to recruit parents and how to be of help in middle school.
    - ii. Jen would like to hand off this position for next year if someone else is interested.
- o Good of the Order
  - i. Parent Comment: I would like to see more teacher presence at PSO meetings. The Administration and PSO board will brainstorm items to bring them into the conversation.
  - ii. Thank you to all the volunteers with 8th-graders who will be moving on, we appreciate all you have done for our students and teachers this past year.

## 8. Meeting Adjourned

- o No further meetings for this school year are scheduled at this time.

**Fowler PSO**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
**August 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022**

	Actual	Budget
<b>Income</b>		
<b>Fundraising Events</b>		
Online Auction		
Income	6,508.39	7,000.00
Donations	-	
Credit card expense	-	(900.00)
Total Online Auction	6,508.39	6,100.00
Pledge-A-Thon		
Income	895.00	4,000.00
Donation	-	225.00
Expense	(60.00)	(662.50)
Total Pledge-A-Thon	835.00	3,562.50
		9,662.50
<b>Other Funderisers</b>		
Spirit Wear		
Income	1,655.00	1,800.00
Expense	-	(3,000.00)
Total Spirit Wear		(1,200.00)
	1,655.00	
Fred Meyer	112.79	175.00
Bottle Drop	1,000.00	1,000.00
Amazon Smile/Escrip	121.33	300.00
Dining Out Nights	1,253.45	1,700.00
Candy Buy Back	207.00	400.00
Other Revenue	3,335.54	
	6,030.11	3,575.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>15,028.50</b>	<b>12,037.50</b>

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**Fowler PSO**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
**August 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022**

<b>Expense</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>Curriculum Support</b>		
Teacher Requests	-	1,800.00
Incentive Trips	-	2,000.00
Token Store	1,979.38	3,000.00
Assemblies	-	500.00
Total Curriculum Support	1,979.38	7,300.00
 <b>General Expense</b>		
Incentive Parties		
6th Grade		215.00
7th Grade		215.00
Total Incentive Parties		430.00
 8th Grade Party		
Expenses (260 @ \$15)	500.00	3,900.00
Buses		1,500.00
Total 8th Grade Party		5,400.00
Teacher Incentives		225.00
Staff Appreciation	1,018.06	900.00
Fall Dance		-
Spring Dance		800.00
Restricted funds - food service		
<b>Emblem on Building Donation</b>		645.00
PSO Administration		
PSO Insurance		320.00
Domain Registration	36.00	36.00
Supplies/Bank Fees		100.00
State Taxes/Renewal Fees	70.00	80.00
Total PSO Administration	106.00	
 Total General Expense	 1,624.06	 3,106.00
 <b>Total Expense</b>	 <b>3,603.44</b>	 <b>16,236.00</b>

**Net Ordinary Income/(Loss-Reserve Funded)** 11,425.06 (4,198.50)

**Prior Year expenses paid in 2021/2022** 482.78

Beginning Balance - Checking Account	23,546.92	Bottle Drop Balance - 8/1/2021	1,075.55
- Plus: Income for current fiscal year	15,028.50	Bottle Drop Balance - current	645.45
- Less: Expenses for current fiscal year	3,603.44	- Disbursement	1,000.00
Ending Balance - Checking Account	34,489.20	Bottledrop Donations YTD	569.90