

Fowler Middle School  
Thursday, September 15th, 2022  
6:30-7:30pm

## PSO Meeting Minutes

### 1. Called to Order

At 6:30 pm on September 15, 2022 at Fowler MS by PSO Co-Presidents Heather Champion and Tonia Banks.

### 2. Attendees

Andy Van Fleet, Marnie Watts-Tupou, Heather Champion, Tonia Banks, Claire Kolkoski, Jen Vaskiek, Andrea Johnson, Jacqlyn Proper, Nakia Santigao, Eddie Santigo, Karen Vorhees, Kim Matsler, Jamie Ruzicka, Tanell Ogbeide, and Annette Keen

### 3. Welcome & Introductions

### 4. Old Business

- The minutes from May 19, 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved.

### 5. New Business

- **Presidents - Heather Champion and Tonia Banks**
  - i. Proposed [Budget FY 2022-23 Budget](#)
    1. Review Income
      - a. Planned: \$20,975
      - b. Need to fundraise an additional \$8,938 above last year in order to cover all expected FY 23 expenses
    2. Review Expenses
      - a. Planned: \$20,975
      - b. Increased funding for out two largest items of
        - i. Student Store - added \$2,000 to budget
        - ii. 8th Grade Party - added \$2,600 to budget
    3. Please note we need to amend the budget and add \$1,000 to the expense budget line for spiritwear of restocking inventory
      - a. Last year we used Big Frog but this year heard we are to use Infinity Impressions or possibly Tigard HS through student printing program.
    4. Q&A:
      - a. Why the increase to 8th grade party?

- i. We spent more last year on the 8th grade party compared to previous year. The budget for FY 23 was increased to be in alignment with last year's expense and to include inflation. What is planned and decided upon next spring all factors on the fundraising that happens between now and then.
      - 1. Believe we have 280 8th graders this year.
  - b. Idea for fundraisers outside of what we've already planned?
    - i. Street Fair (outdoor dance/carnival, paid entrance,, college/hs students volunteer to wear costumes)
    - ii. Bingo Night (hold during rainy season, snacks, pizza, soda cans for bottle drop, donated items like TV to get parents/more cards purchased, cost of boards)
      - 1. Hold as a fundraiser vs family night
      - 2. Form a committee to help plan and collect donations
      - 3. 1 free card per student, with option to buy more
      - 4. Perhaps have a combo Silent Auction and Bingo Night
    - iii. Create a donation committee
  - c. Are the leadership students available to assist with posters/marketing for fundraisers, bottledrops, etc?
    - i. Yes, but need lead time to plan and create around current projects.
  - d. Please calendar out fundraisers as they get confirmed.
  - e. Can we just donate directly rather than wait in line for fundraisers like Dining Night Out?
    - i. Send a letter - donate \$50 and only get one ask from us, donate \$100 and you won't hear from us again
- 5. Does the PSO have a form letter in order to collect donations?
  - a. Yes, we can get you the EI form and letterhead.
- 6. Vote called to approve the budget.
  - a. Budget approved by the committee.

- **Treasurer - Claire Kolkoski**

- i. Nothing additional to add beyond what has already been covered.

- **Dining Night Out - Heather Champion**

- 1. Thank you to Nakia Santiago for volunteering to be the Dining Out Coordinator for this year!

- ii. September all month - Thirsty Lion
  - iii. October 22nd - Chipotle
  - iv. November - TBA
    - 1. Q&A:
      - a. To help families on tightened budgets it would be nice if we could be diligent and not hold Dining Out the same week as Mary Woodward Elementary.
      - b. We haven't had McMenamins in awhile, Heather sent email but hasn't heard back.
      - c. Suggestion - Margarita Factory, one coming to Tigard in old Gustvas location.
- **Volunteer Coordinator - Jen Vaskiek**
    - i. Picture Day Helpers
      - 1. Filled with all help needed
    - ii. ASA Cross Country Meet
      - 1. Working on this October 20th event
    - iii. Not doing lunch helpers this year unless Mr. VanFleet reaches out
    - iv. Committees:
      - 1. Nakia has signed up to help with Dance Chair, Auctions, and Dining Night Out
      - 2. Fall Fundraising Committee
        - a. Needs volunteers
    - v. Like to request \$100 in gift cards to award volunteers monthly for their service.
      - 1. Budget amended and approved the add of the line item for Volunteer Appreciation at \$100.
- **Bottle Drop Coordinator - Jen Vaskiek**
    - i. Currently have a balance of \$868.15 would you like them to cut us a check?
      - 1. Treasurer: Cut anytime we want, just leave some money for bag purchases. Suggest leave \$200 and cut the rest.
        - a. Motion to cut a check for \$600 was approved.
    - ii. Q&A:
      - 1. Bottle Drop bags should be on the PSO table for Back to School Night.
      - 2. Have a Bottle Drop mascot at events
      - 3. Are cans collected for Fowler MS only or giving bags out to families as well?
        - a. Both. We are collecting bags within the school from students, Trish has bags to provide when needed, and if I can get your name and address happy to bring you bags and even pickup.

4. Suggestion of reaching out to MOD pizza to place bins in their side hall as they are currently trashing all cans and bottles. Collected bags could be shared between Mary Woodward Elementary and Fowler.
  5. Perhaps create a challenge of bottle collection between the grades and by the end of year have a movie day.
  6. Bottle Drop has a challenge as well with \$5,000 award
- **Student Store - Andrea Johnson**
    - i. Is not money but items are purchased through tokens. Students earn tokens through the Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) program which are awarded through their teachers. Students can spend their tokens weekly on Thursdays during lunch time. Balances can be checked on their iPads.
    - ii. Store opened today was very exciting but sold almost the stuffed animals.
    - iii. Andrea will collaborate with Trish to note in the weekly bulletin to 'Stock the Student Store' from Costco runs or items you would be dropping off at Goodwill.
    - iv. Educate on what the student store is for beginning of new year
    - v. Send to Kristi for posting on social media
  - **Social Media - on behalf of Kristi Sloan**
    - i. PSO has a new Facebook page. The District did an audit over the summer and separated Fowler MS and PSO. We lost 700 followers to about 30 - will need to build this back up.
      1. Q&A:
        - a. Do we have Instagram?
        - b. What about PSO TikTok videos?

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

- Awesome launching into this year, very different vibe than what we felt last year for sure.
- We were on pins and needles with a few final hires, we made our last teaching hire in the first week kids were back. Still looking for one kitchen staff member, and one LSA, but we have a full custodial team for the first time in two years.
- The week before back to school night, he, Mrs. Watts, Mrs. Pellici, and twelve other staff members came in overalls and backpack blowers, lawn cutting equipment and mops chipping into help our one custodian that was here. Was really cool to people come together to get the building in shape for our students and parents; that is the kind of staff that is here.
- Just wrapped up two of our three assemblies of tone setting for the year to make sure the students know the expectations. Responsible, respectful and safe with students and staff in all environments.

- Have noticed in tightening the cellphone policy and the expectation of being in class and staying in class the halls are looking great, feeling great, tone and vibe of all our staff is awesome right now. It's like we've moved into a whole new universe from where we started last year. And believe the students are more regulated having gone through a full year of inperson school.
- We do have hotspots still around PE lockers, we aren't using PE lockers this year for a variety of reasons, safety included. Trying to get the right staff to monitor inside and outside spaces and we do not have enough female coverage to have a PE teacher each and every period because we've deployed those folks to Health. We've added 6th and 7th grade health instead of just 8th grade health, so it's stretch our system so we couldn't get full coverage there. And we are still in that trauma we experienced coming out of COVID, are we going to need to consider spacing at some point of time. We don't want to set a plan in place, just to have to turn around and change processes. We chose this route we will see how it goes. We have a couple individual situations where students have such a long transition that they can't get to a locker in the halls to get back to PE. Working with our staff to address these issues. Our biggest need is to wear safe clothes, wear safe shoes to participate in activities.
- Receiving \$9,600 from Foundation grant is coming our way this year. Historically Fowler has used that money for After School Activities i.e.,the directors, the leaders for the Infinity groups that we host. We have now filled all of our Infinity positions including No Place for Hate, and are launching into a new year fully staffed. We also have two advisors for our each of our Infinity groups to provide students with a lots of extra attention. I'm working on writing the new grant as we speak and will share with the PSO Presidents, and with our site council. Always looking for other ideas on where these dollars go as we can bring outside specialists in as well.
- This coming Thursday, September 22nd is Back-To-School Night where parents have the opportunity to walk their students schedules. We will have a 15 minute orientation starting at 6:00pm with 8 minute class sessions to get to know the teacher a little and what the class curriculum is.

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

- The start of the school year has felt really, really good, positive from both the students and the staff. Last year was a hard year for everybody, so it's nice to come back. One wonderful thing about working in education, is you always get a chance to redo it, we start over every year. The fall is chance to hit reset, change things up, to tighten things up, to put more structure, figure out what didn't work well last year and do things better this year. We started the year strong with setting the expectations, reviewing and teaching expectations not just in the morning meeting, but throughout the day in each class. Feel that went well and helped us set the tone in a positive way.

- Grade level assemblies have been done every month, and would like to continue that practice. It's a great opportunity to get a group of students together to review something information or recongize celebrate something.
- Our electronic token system is through the Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) program is about school wide systems - how we set things up and how we regonize and reinforce the behaviors and skills we want to see. How we teach expectations and how we recongize them. Currently focusing on getting to class on time, and informed staff for 5th period today, every student who was on time they got a token added to their account. We are talking about other ways to incentive students. Looking for ideas that are equitable and affordable.

## 8. Questions & Answers

- Parent: Are there not enough female PE teachers? Has that been tabled or are they actively searching?
  - i. Mr. VanFleet: We have the number of bodies to be able to teach PE class but these same folks are also the ones we need to teach Health for this year. Were we are with how the schedule is built and the late announcement of how much FTE we were hit from district office it pinned up our master schedule into this and we had some people who've worked hard on the Health curriculum that they/we felt they were the ones who needed to launch year one. We are hoping for next year we can redeploy some of our staff members to get that right balance.
- Parent: Do we not have a dress code? Seems students are attending in barley any clothing. Seems we need to revisit this topic and consider what schools around us are doing, ie. uniforms.
  - i. Mr. VanFleet: At this time the dress code has basically become is to cover your privates. A lot of the local districts around us have the stance on doing uniforms. There is also the issue of discrimination of coding not happening the same for both boys and girls. Some of the schools used to have leeway to define what the dress code was, but we now have collective come under the same approach.
  - ii. Mrs. Watts-Tupou: Was thinking about this recently, last year if it looked like a student was wearing something that looked just like a bra or swimming suit top, I asked them to put something over. And this year that hasn't been happening. We will be recalibrating with our colleagues at the other two middle schools, and Amber Fields, the TTSD Director of Middle School Programs, if this is something we should be doing. Should we be doing more?
    - 1. Parent: Is this something we should be coming straight to you as Administrators or straight to the board?
      - a. Mrs. Watts-Tupou: We appreciate you coming to us , so we can talk about it first because some of the issues we can speak to, or we don't even know about. And some of them might be a different conversation.

2. Parent: Do we have to follow the district guideline or can we make a school guideline?
  - a. Mr. VanFleet: We have to follow district guidelines. Perhaps we can request a district listening session.
- iii. [TTSD 2022-23 Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook](#)
  1. *Section 13 Student Dress and Grooming*
    - a. *Students have the RIGHT:*
      - i. *\*To dress and groom according to their choice consistent with the goals and purposes of the educational environment.*
    - b. *Students have the RESPONSIBILITY:*
      - i. *\*To dress and groom so the teaching/learning process is not disrupted.*
      - ii. *\*To be dressed, groomed and clean so that a health/safety issue is not created. Articles of clothing that advertise illegal activities or promote the use of alcohol, tobacco or drug projects, promote acts of violence and/or intimidation, or that display sexually suggestive words or pictures are not permitted in school in case they contradict the mission and curriculum of the district. Any items which are commonly considered evidence of membership or affiliation with any gang are also prohibited.*
- iv. Parent: Are we stilling doing Coffee with the Principal?
  1. Mr. VanFleet: I haven't picked a date yet, but we are going to launch into that in October.
- v. Parent: Understand your staff has met as a team, and your admin has met as a team too, I'm curious that after such a hard year last year, do you have a vision for what meaningful change will look like for this year? Or maybe some metrics measure yourself against last year?
  1. Mrs. Watts-Tupou: We talked about this a little bit today. Last year we did different surveys and had listening sessions. We will be giving the same surveys this year to students, staff and parents. For me we are going to measure the difference is by what they are telling us. How do they feel? How do they like school? Last year we heard they don't feel safe, they don't feel listened to, we were not responding to their needs. We will compare the feedback that students give us against the feedback that staff provides to see if they are in alignment and with what parents give us. We will do the student survey in November and again in the spring.
- vi. Parent: How are you handling the minority situation?
  1. Mrs. Watts-Tupou: We do have extra support this year with the additional Associate Principal and the Culturaly Responsive

liaison, and family partnership advocates. We have some different people and supports and the hope with all of that is that we will be responding quicker to concerns as they arise. And closing that feedback loop by getting back to students, staff and family faster.

## 9. Meeting Adjourned

- The next PSO Committee Meeting is scheduled to be held on October 20, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.