

## **Goshen Parent Community**

Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2020

(Action items **highlighted in yellow**)

Attendees:

Marne Repetto ([mlrepetto@yahoo.com](mailto:mlrepetto@yahoo.com))

Andi Zampelli ([azampelli@me.com](mailto:azampelli@me.com))

Lisa Cannon ([alissacannon619@gmail.com](mailto:alissacannon619@gmail.com))

Julie Arthur ([julie.b.arthur@gmail.com](mailto:julie.b.arthur@gmail.com))

Dana Kelly ([danakelly81@icloud.com](mailto:danakelly81@icloud.com))

Kristy Stevens ([kristy@n99.com](mailto:kristy@n99.com))

Meg Weber ([Meg.k.weber@gmail.com](mailto:Meg.k.weber@gmail.com))

Katie Fahey ([Mrskatiefahey@gmail.com](mailto:Mrskatiefahey@gmail.com))

Amy Waldron ([amywaldron86@gmail.com](mailto:amywaldron86@gmail.com))

Katie Richardson ([katiebr2233@gmail.com](mailto:katiebr2233@gmail.com))

Brynn Bechtold ([brynnlee16@gmail.com](mailto:brynnlee16@gmail.com))

Marta Wilgoose Salo ([marta.willgoose@gmail.com](mailto:marta.willgoose@gmail.com))

### **Financials (Marne)**

- GPC account update – \$350 right now
- Plans for giving back to the school
  - Gave \$3000 at the end of last year, \$1000 at the beginning of this year (since Harvest Fair was cancelled) to help with extra supplies the school needed because of increased safety measures. Also partly used for teacher appreciation lunch from Dixie Picnic.
  - In the past we used to give back all at once at the end of the year, but this year we'll give back as it comes in to make an impact ASAP.
- What is our fundraising goal?
  - Generally a minimum of \$1500, to ensure funding for the annual Harvest Fair. We've raised around \$3000-4000/year in recent years, though much was raised from a suggested annual donation from families, which we haven't yet requested this year.
  - However, we are starting a number of new fundraisers that might bring in new sources of funding for the school. We should attempt to plan out our potential earnings to ensure we save enough money for a potential Harvest Fair 2021.
  - We discussed Mimi's current planning to request gifts for the school's annual fund. Marta has experience in fundraising/development and would be happy to discuss the annual fund with Mimi. **Marta will follow up.**
  - Meg also suggested we could help with stuffing envelopes or other office tasks for Mimi and Karen. **Marne will bring up** during her next meeting with Mimi.
- Giant Gift Cards: Groceries, like Giant, often give \$25 gift cards for nonprofits to support local events, for purchases in-store. We can visit all the Giants in the area. This could be used for Pumpkin Community Give (below), or other ideas for families.

### **Box Tops (Katie)**

- \$204.30 so far (a lot from the Box Tops week referral promotion (\$170))
- Receipts can only be scanned within 14 days

- Monthly flyer from Box Tops with specials – can post on FB, and also email to parents once a month to encourage continued participation
- Clips should be submitted before end of this month, Katie will include that in email

### **Scrip Gift Cards** (Julie)

- Drafted a flyer, order form, highlighting the retailers that give >10%
- GPC volunteers can read the flyer and test out the online system to ensure it makes sense before sending schoolwide. Julie will send in the next week or two after the web system is up and running.

### **Events**

#### 1) Pumpkin Community Give (Lisa)

Since in-person events can't be held, the GPC brainstormed different ways to create a sense of community with families. Andi is contacting Pete's Produce to price the cost of giving a pumpkin to each family for the fall. Or, this could also be pursued with Giant Gift Cards (above).

#### 2) Pretzels update (Kristy)

Self-packaging pretzels this year wouldn't make sense given our current environment. This is cancelled for the time being!

#### 3) Pasta sets (Kristy)

Dinosaurs, holidays, theme-shaped pastas, gift kits, too. Online ordering link that can be sent to all families, 40% profit, packages are sent directly to families. The group received the flyer to review and provide feedback.

#### 4) Taco Kits (Andi)

With Taste of Puebla, a local vendor from West Chester Growers Market.

Planning on Halloween Week – one less night to have to cook that week. \$32 for a kit for 5 people, everything cold pre-packaged to heat. 15% given back to GFS. Kits can be given out in car line. Just working on which day(s) of the week to pass out (Day of the Dead?).

#### 5) Masks (Andi)

They are being given to all families as a gift from GPC; looking to get some made for the teachers, too. Idea of tie dye kits, socially distant tie dye party?

### **Restaurant Nights** (Lisa)

- October: Panera 10/19 (20%)
- November: Freddy's West Chester 11/18 (15%)
- December planning: Potentially Brother's Pizza West Chester, Marne is following up as a possible co-event with Monkey Fish Toys, to receive a % back from both. (Last year Monkey Fish offered 10% off, and also 10% of proceeds to GFS)

### **Holiday Ideas** (Lisa/Andi)

Wreathes or Poinsettias: Preorder and pick up in car line? B&B Christmas Trees, ask Dana if she can see if they would be interested in coordinating on these.

Pies/Quiches: with local Nomadic Pies. Preorder and pickup in car line? Andi will follow up

### **Class Reps** (Marne)

We will do class reps again this year! To organize parents and help teachers as needed.

Owls: Meg Weber

Froggies: Lisa Cannon

Bears: Marne Repetto and Andi Zampelli

Bumblebees: Katie Richardson

Butterflies: Kristy Stevens

### **Read-A-Thon Fundraiser** (Katie)

We choose a month-long period of time for the Read-A-Thon. Children and families can make it a goal to read a certain number of books during the month. Pre-readers would count their books/minutes by independently looking at picture books and turning pages, or a parent or older child reading to them.

Children will share their goal with relatives, neighbors, and friends, and ask for a sponsorship. "Aunt Nancy, my goal is to read 60 books during my school's Read-A-Thon, that's two books per day! If I reach my goal, will you sponsor me?

Use a tracker, e.g., in Google Docs or printed out for parents to tally.

Money could be split, half to the school, half to a local literacy nonprofit.

Promotes literacy! Promotes family time! Builds community!

Andi suggested we could do an old-fashioned thermometer that collectively tallies kids' reading. If we reach the goal, then half is given away to a local nonprofit. Idea of combining with the Barnes & Noble book fair (tabled for now).

Possibly coordinate in March around Dr. Seuss birthday. **Katie will email** more details to the group. Marta also suggested a similar effort in the fall for time spent outdoors.

### **GFS Hoodies**

- Former parent, Erin Robins (Mid Atlantic Monograms), does screen printing on clothing, etc. She could give us a custom order form for GFS-specific clothing options.
- Discussed having a few different options at different price points (kids t-shirt, hoodie, beanie hat, also adult sizes). We should do it as a partial fundraiser, at least a few dollars or small percentage per item. **Marne will contact Erin** to send our thoughts and see what the options are.

### **Other Ideas**

- Halloween: Have families make a jack-o-lantern, bring to the school and light them up for a drive-thru in the dark.
- Ornament kits for kids to make as gifts for family or friends. Maybe this could be a GPC gift to families?
- Baking kits, great for families to do together, especially during the holidays. Lisa reached out to Couch Tomato re: cooking kits.

### **What is GPC up to in 2020-2021**

Email blast to go out by end of the month to give everyone a snapshot of what we've done and what we're planning.

**\*\* Next Meeting \*\***

Mon Nov 9th at 8:15pm