

## Minutes PTA meeting Tuesday 1 October 2019

**Attendance:** Marije, Dineke, Lenka, Cathy, Lara, Nika, Katia, Paul Buckley, Stephen Dexter, Tamara Black, Nicky Sandmann

- 1) Director Update
  - a. Update on CEESA Directors Conference in Istanbul. Late Spring conference will be held in Azerbaijan
  - b. Setting up processes for accreditation – iPads were set up during the Welcome Picnic – only approx. 20 completed surveys to date. Director asks PTA to assist in asking parents to ensure they complete the survey.
  
- 2) Lower School Principal Update
  - a. MAP testing for grades 3-5 is underway. This is an external adaptive assessment, which is taken at the beginning and end of the school year to measure student progress.
  - b. Faculty are reminding parents the importance of getting their children to school by 7:50 so they can be ready for the day. Tatiana also speaking with bus companies regarding adjusting pick up schedules where needed as there is more traffic than last year.
  - c. LS Fall goal setting student conferences will take place on October 15 and 16. Parent teacher and child will participate. The support from traditional to goal setting conferences is in line with the AISZ strategic plan. There will be goal progress reports during the year and student led conferences will take place in the spring.
  - d. Report cards will be sent each semester rather than trimester going forward. This applies to both Lower and Upper Schools.
  
- 3) Upper School Principal update
  - a. Grade level parent coffees were well attended. Themes covered included the need to communicate that English should be spoken only in class, goal setting, designing a way for teachers to get feedback from students. Next grade level coffees will be held in November.
  - b. Working on building community connections – teachers have started organizing field trips going, parent authorization process has been streamlined to facilitate this.
  - c. Community Mondays –Day 1 is dedicated to community learning experiences. Day 6 is dedicated to service learning experiences.
  
- 4) PTA President and PTA Team update
  - a. New PTA team member, Katia Keshishian takes Krisztina's place. New teacher representative Nicky Sandmann.
  - b. PTA is still seeking class parents for grades 3 and 11

- c. Two students volunteered for Bearwear – they are working on hoodies for sports team – design, pricing etc.
- 5) Discussion on PTA finances and the need for fundraising events to keep the PTA on solid financial ground.
- 6) Halloween class parties on October 25<sup>th</sup> will be at the discretion of individual teachers. PTA will be selling tickets for US embassy party up to October 18<sup>th</sup>.
- 7) Bingo confirmed for Friday November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 8) Welcome Picnic Review:
  - a. Indoor and outdoor set up rather than only outdoor is recommended for future
  - b. Playground may need to be closed in future as older students were there unsupervised
  - c. May need to consider age restriction for bouncy castle
  - d. Also consider advance ticket sales next year
  - e. Final financial position – loss of Kn1,500 – very good result compared to previous years
- 9) PTA asks LS Principal to continue communications/video on Maker Space funded by PTA Spring Dance.
- 10) Communications:
  - a. Director invited Dineke to join the Communications team for PTA.
  - b. PTA to discuss and finalize PTA flyer to be incorporated into package to new parents.
  - c. Classlist may address all PTA communication requirements; meet ups, buy and sell, photographs, newsletters etc. Board will investigate further.
  - d. PTA will continue to communicate to parents via website and Facebook as well as inclusion in newsletters on first and third Fridays monthly – send via email with subject line “Newsletter PTA Submission” day prior by noon.

Upcoming Meetings:

2019

5 November PTA Monthly  
 3 December PTA Monthly

2020

14 January PTA Monthly  
 4 February PTA Monthly  
 3 March PTA Monthly  
 7 April PTA Monthly  
 5 May PTA Monthly  
 2 June PTA Monthly