

PTO General Meeting Minutes : Nov 5, 2018

Call to Order: The Nov 5, 2018 meeting of the SSESH PTO is hereby Called to order 6:07pm

Reading and Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from our last meeting are electronically distributed on our webpage, **President:** does anyone have corrections, great since there are no corrections the minutes are approved as they appear online.

President Report:

We have a new events coordinator, Aurelia Haston

- Positive Parenting reminder
- New Basketball Team being formed for upper
- New Soccer Team in Spring
- Chess club tournament on December 1st

Old Business:

Thanks for coming out Beautification Day it was a huge success, special thanks to Stephanie Capps who took the time to thoroughly walk the playground and meet with the teachers to determine exactly what needed to be done this fall to spruce up our wonderful campus, check out our fence on the playground, every child that showed up to help left behind a rainbow handprint to represent their service to the school. It was an especially sweet day as we dedicated our new stage area to Juan Rodriquez whose selfless servitude is an inspiring example for our children

-Community Library: Charlie explained how the Da Vinci lab group created the library case and the types of skills they learned through the process.

-Chevonne - Excited to introduce the St. Stephen's "little library" built by the DaVinci lab and Nahla and the teachers have selected titles that are montessori inspired that follow students through the hurdles at all levels of development. These are books that the teachers use in the classroom and they will be available through this community library for everyone to use. Book Fair will have a specific table where you can purchase and gift books to the community library.

-We are also happy to announce that we earned \$160 from purchases from Tea online

-reminder if you designate SSESH on amazon smile we get a tiny portion of the proceeds

-also reminder if you make your holiday cards on Minted anytime in the month of November we get 15% of the proceeds Refer to the hallway for the unique promo code!

New Business:

-Annual Fund Speaker: 3 min

Karen Soh - we are well past the halfway mark - our goal is 100% participation of staff of families. If your child's classroom reaches 100% they can participate at February 8th Make it Snow day at St. Stephen's. We hope to reach out to grandparents for the annual fund and we will be representing their generous donations on our tree outside a special way!

Patty Fagan - Food Drive

On the service ministry committee and as an effort to combat hunger in Houston - they would like to invite everyone to join us Friday, Dec 7th 6-9pm. Kids as young as 6pm can help with their parents and the Houston Food Bank has tasks for all ages.

New Teacher Introduction by Jerri 7 min

Jerri has noted that the grandparents day - this weeks hallway will have more information about Grandparents day. At 9am - it's just adults, talking and coffee. At 10am it is all about kids. At 10:45am there will be classroom observations with the students in the classrooms.

Please join us at the food bank, working and offering service alongside their parents is an inspiring experience, we hope that we will have a great showing and able to really help the Houston Food Bank.

Jerri offered some personal stories about recent experiences she has had at school and how we are growing as a school with her.

New Teachers

Each teacher introduced themselves and shared a bit of their personal story and their recent experiences here at SESH.

PE - Ricardo Vargas

Spanish - Cristina Palma Diaz

Middle Years - Hiya Harmouche

Alumni Guest Speaker Panel with Jerri :

Zane Nourredine – 8th grade class of 2008, now in his first year of law school (he assisted in lower el and with Coach Ronnie last year)

Iole Bispo – 12th grade class of 2016 – a college senior UH in accounting...probably getting her masters in accounting next. (*only in High School here at SESH)

Emma Pierce - at Carnegie currently - noted that the close community of SESH helped her to transition into high school well.

Alex Hysinger – 8th grade class of 2018 – a high school freshman at HSPVA. Felt that fine arts training at SESH was a huge help for transition to high school.

Closing Summary and Adjournment:

Since there is no additional new business on the agenda I will close this meeting of the PTO. A reminder if you have items you want to get on the agenda for our next meeting please email us.

Our next meeting of the PTO_be the December 11th coffee at the **Community House** immediately after drop off.

submitted by Allison Kellogg