

## **PTO Agenda: September 9, 2019**

**Call to Order: Pres:** The September 9, 2019 meeting of the SSESH PTO is hereby Called to order time 6:12pm

### **Housekeeping items**

Allison Kellogg PTO Communications Secretary

### **Reading and Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes from the PTO meetings this year will be made available digitally on the PTO webpage, typically at this point in the meeting the president will ask if there are any corrections and we will officially approve the minutes. if you have any corrections or additions to be added to the minutes at any time please email [pto@ssesh.org](mailto:pto@ssesh.org)

### **PlusPortals -**

Know your login information, if you need help getting signed up with plus portals or having issues logging in, connect with Buddy and Miguel and they will help get that sorted out for you. Older students use more of the functionality of the system but it can be very useful for parent of younger children to utilize as it is the most updated listing of upcoming events and the school calendar.

- Login
- Short term events coming up will be listed on the right hand navigation, these items are also always listed in the Hallway emails. To access the full calendar click "calendar" on the top navigation, I find it useful to print as a PDF so that I can have the date range I am interested in my personal planner.
- To access directory click "directory" - the search by grade level seems to be the most reliable if you need to be able to contact friends from class.

### **2019-2020 meetings/PTO involvement**

After two years of experimenting with the meeting frequency and format this year we are trying a model where this one "PTO presence" each month - meetings and coffees are tough for folks to make work and often the holiday, school event schedule doesn't allow for a regular, easy to remember, scheduled meeting to happen. We want to be sure that we're respecting the request for your discretionary time and any time we gather we will work to stay on target and keep things to one hour. We will send out an email reminder about upcoming PTO events usually about a week in advance and if you ever have questions you can always email [pto@ssesh.org](mailto:pto@ssesh.org).

### **President Report:**

Chevonne Greaser, PTO President

Thank you to Jerri and Aurelia for arranging for our first meeting to include these fabulous Happy Hour refreshments! Please feel free to partake during the meeting as you're listening and we will keep the meeting brief so that we can enjoy some time together at the end.

-Just a quick few points for those of you that are new:

- everyone is a member
- no dues
- we do fundraise for a PTO project or offering for the school community (previous years Gaga Ball Pit on the playground, bringing in speakers, etc) the ways that we support the school comes from sitting around and talking with one another about the
- Sign up for volunteer opportunities - PTO webpage will have signup links available and updated. If you are not familiar with Signupgenius when you click the link it will walk you through the process to sign up and then the system will send you reminders.
- PTO presence will sometimes be an event or a speaker, not necessarily

Socktober -

- Explain the premise of Socktober and the goal to helping the Emergency Aid Coalition.
- October 4th - "sockhop" kickoff event 6:00-7:00pm Mr. Buddy is going to DJ - Pecore Hall right after aftercare lets out - join us to celebrate the beginning of the Socktober month, get your sock collection basket and hang out with friends to dance and enjoy some pizza and sock themed activities! All families are welcome - drop in any time - very casual (but feel free to wear your silly socks)! We are looking forward to building community for a good cause and allowing our service to the Houston community to allow us to connect to our neighbors and family to serve others!
- November's all school chapel (November 6th) will conclude the collection period and we will then connect with the EAC to get the socks to those in need. We will have a blessing of the socks with Ryan Hawthorne's help during All School Chapel.

### **Campus Beautification - November 2nd**

Stephanie Capps - PTO VP and Beautification Day Chair

- This year's beautification day is Saturday morning November 2 from 8am -11am. This is a great opportunity to come together as community to help refresh and brighten up the outdoor areas the school. Last year we had a beautiful sunny day and it was wonderful to see parents, teachers, administrators, and kids working side by side and all getting to know each other better in the process. There is something for everyone to do whether you love to dig in the dirt, weed, rake , prune, push a wheelbarrow or

just drop off plants, mulch and water. If you know nothing about gardening that's o.k., There will be Pto representatives to guide you in what to pull or how to plant! If you have any special skills or resources that you would like to share please let us know.

- The signup genius to volunteer is online. From the schools website click Parents then PTO and on that page there is volunteer opportunities. Clicking on campus beautification day take you to the sign up.
- Kids are encouraged to come and help but need to remain under parent supervision. Please bring any supplies you may have and label your gear. There will be a sign in sheet for anyone that needs service hour credits
- In this next month we will be checking in with staff to see if there are any areas with new needs since last year and will be updating the sign up genius.
- So go ahead and Mark Your calendar for November 2 and look forward to seeing you all there.

### **New Business:**

#### Upcoming Events

Chevonne Greaser, PTO President

Special Speaker - Mary Yenik back this year for more amazing educational opportunities for families.

- October 15th - PTO coffee in Havens after drop off (8:15-9:30)
- February 11th - speaker only - no PTO meeting but **special two hour block** of time 5:30-7:30
- We'll be adding Mary's reference materials and reading recommendations back to the PTO site soon so you can refresh your memory about her work and get prepped to ask great questions!

Parent Education opportunities -- check the Plus Portal calendar for the details about each week's topic and take advantage of these great resources. Invite grandparents, aunts, uncles, anyone who has had questions about montessori or who has an interest in your child's life and learning

Buff Burger spirit days coming up -

Works for Lunch and Dinner, vegan and gluten free options available.

Tonight!

September 27

October 25

November 22

December 20

**Camp Allen - September 27-29th -weekend away**

Ryan Hawthorn, Director of Spiritual Life

- Just a 58 minute drive to Camp Allen from school on 290 - arrive for a weekend away for families. There are two church and school events during the year and it is a great time to get to know people throughout the community. There is a pool, canoeing, horses, cabins (no need to sleep outside!), games. Recommended a lot for Primary families who will be moving up next year, lower el families who have students attending in the spring with their class.
- Signups online for activities ahead of time so that they have enough equipment and horses ready to go for group.
- If you are going to join the group for Camp Allen - consider how you might be able to help out while you are there with the group and reach out to Ryan or Chevonne.

**Community Interaction:**

Please enjoy the refreshments and chit chat with your community for tonight's community interaction. Buff Burger has also extended an invitation for us to have a spirit night tonight where they will give a portion of sales back to the SESH PTO if anyone is interested in moving down the road for some ice cream or other additional refreshments!

**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 please email us.

Our next meeting of the PTO be the Oct 15th coffee with Mary Yenik at the Havens Center immediately after drop off. A list of upcoming meetings can be found on our webpage under the parent tab at [ssesh.org](http://ssesh.org)!

Meeting Adjourned 6:39pm, attendees stayed to enjoy the refreshments.