JMST PTO General Membership Meeting

September 18, 2019

Call to order

Welcome and Introductions.

Secretary’s Report: May minutes were reviewed. Tamara Goble made a motion to approve the minutes. Jeanne Takeda seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Principal’s Report: Ms. Hastey welcomed everyone. Jupiter Middle School has a focus on great academics, and helping families feel safe and secure. JMS is A-rated and raised it’s score from a 63 to a 66. The area JMS is working on growth is with the English Language Learners (ELL) and Exceptional Student Education (ESE) students. The district is also providing additional support for this group at our school. The JMS ELL population is growing and at the 11-day count, JMS earned an additional ESOL/ELL teacher. Ms. Hastey shared how she loved Jupiter Middle’s diversity and her goal of respectful, resilient, and responsible children. Middle School students are changing quite a bit and JMS hopes to help students develop perspective. Safety is also a very important goal. The safety team meets every month and is proactive at our school. They recommended a change in the cell phone policy that is now in effect. JMS will no longer keep students’ phones overnight. If students are not using their phones appropriately, teachers may collect a phone and send it to the office. However, the students will be able to pick up the phone at the end of the day. Many students use their phones for safety purposes when they leave school, so the school will not require a parent to pick up the phone.

The school is completing the required lock down drills, fire drills, and tornado drills. After today, students will not be forewarned about drills. Due to the voter referendum recently passed, JMS is increasing its focus on emotional and mental health. Victoria Shepard is an in-house counselor at JMS and we also have an ESL counselor, Vega Ortiz. There is a weekly meeting for counselors and members of the administrative team to address concerns about students. JMS has 1462 students and the safety team is relying on parents to help by contacting the school when concerns about students arise. One of those concerns is vaping. Students were given presentations on vaping last week and tomorrow night is a parent presentation on vaping.

JMS hosted the Map to success for rising 6th graders and served 350 students. Ms. Previte led a new teacher orientation this summer as well. Ms. Hastey also thanked the PTO for their help with preschool week and schedule pickup. The new Saturday schedule pick-up was a success and the opening of school was very smooth. JMS is also hosting an AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) night about the new courses/program designed to encourage skills necessary for college. Curriculum Night was very successful and today was student council elections. Ms. Hastey also addressed how the school is now enforcing its beverage policy. To help with school cleanliness, students are not allowed to bring coffee drinks or fast food beverages into school. Finally, there is a vacancy for school treasurer.

President’s Report: Pam Dei is the PTO president. PTO meetings will be held the first Wednesday of each month at 9:40 am. Meetings will have the goal of being 1 hour. Pam explained about JMS’s great teachers and staff and shared that part of our responsibility as parents is to practice restraint with social media. If parents hear about an event, please contact the school, police, or use the Fortify FL app rather than spreading news on social media. JMS also welcomes all volunteers!

Vice President’s Report: Alyssa Brown is the Vice President.

Treasurer’s Report: Roxanne Owensby shared that most of the PTO income is generated at the start of the school year. PTO has brought in around $48,700 and had around $15,000 in cost for the start of the year and is on track for fulfilling the budget for the year.

Committee Reports:

Volunteer Coordinator/ Communications Secretary: Nancy Wilkes shared that there are several ways to support our school. If interested, you can select JMS on Amazon Smile to send a portion of your purchases to the school. PTO uses several social media sites to communicate with parents. Our website is [www.jmstpto.com](http://www.jmstpto.com), and our Facebook is Jupiter Middle School of Technology PTO. Instagram and twitter are both Jupiter Middle School PTO. Also, if you want to receive Sign Up Genius requests opportunities, please make sure that Nancy has your email.

Five Star Committee: Alison Kaphon works on the 5 Star book which records community involvement, family involvement, PTO, volunteers and business partner relationships. Please log your hours in the VIPs computer system. The front office has two systems: the Raptor system is for security so you will need a legal ID to check in, the VIPs computer is for logging volunteer hours.

6th Grade Dance: Kim McKay volunteered to chair with Nawal Grayab. The Haunted Mariner Party will take place on a Friday in October.

7th Grade Dance: Suzanne Rothman is planning for February.

8th Grade Dance: Nancy Wilkes, Pam Dei, and Tamara Goble are working with Ms. Lowe. The dance will be at the Marriot on PGA.

Dad’s Club: A chair is needed.

Candy Grams: Tamara Goble will be organizing candy grams for Valentine’s Day for the students to send to each other.

Staff Appreciation: Cindy will be the chair and our PTO hosts a November Thanksgiving lunch, a December Christmas lunch, and a May teacher appreciation month for our 150 staff members.

Business Partners: Jeanne Takeda is our Business Partner Liaison. Anyone interested in becoming a business partner can fill out an application.

Spirit Nights: Our PTO organizes one spirit night per month where restaurants give a portion of sales back to our school.

Sept. 18 Culver’s to benefit Culinary

Sept 23 Blaze Pizza on Indiantown (show the flyer from our website)

Tentative Oct. 13 Habit Burger (soft opening that will give us 100% of sales form 5-7)

Waiting on confirmation of the date.

Mariner Market:  The market is run by Tamara Goble and is looking for chairs for the 3 areas: the online market, the market, and the t-shirt packages. The store is open one day a week during lunches (11-1:30), but would like to add a second day. Volunteers are welcome.

Honor Roll Breakfasts: Breakfasts are for students earning As and Bs. There are 3 Days for each of the first 3 quarters. Family Orthodontics is offering free orthodontics for 1 student on the Honor Roll. Students can enter at the breakfast.

Beautification Committee: Alyssa Brown is chair and Bryan De’Oreo has agreed to sponsor the beautification of the front entrance between the 2 doors. The committee also wants to work on updating the courtyard and adding tables, but cost is an issue. Ms. Hastey added that our penny tax lighting is slated for 2021, but that she is working to move that up. Ms. Deal also added that the committee could contact the JHS agriculture program or building programs.

Ms. Deal added some announcements. If you need help with SIS or Eblast communication, please see Ms. Deal. SAC is also looking for parents to join. The next SAC meeting is October 3 and they meet on the first Thursday of each month at 6:00pm. Ms. Deal is looking for any parents interested in volunteering in the school library. There is also an ongoing supply drive for school supplies and very gently used clothes and shoes for students.

Meeting adjourned.

Members Present:

Lisa Hastey Tamara Goble Alison Kaphon

Alyssa Brown Pam Dei Roxane Owensby

Nancy Wilkes Karen Zudans Juanita Deal

Nawal Grayeb Gina Braznell Jeanne Takeda

Suzanne Rothman June McKay Kim McKay

Melissa Walker Reed C. Oliver Shameem

Leanna Collazo Surekha Katta Rasheema Crockett

Sarah Strayer Maria Nord Beth Anne Sofarelli

Karin Slazinski Shernelle McCombre Keturah McCombre

Kimberly Joy Morgan Jared Bucker Kristine Eberle

Cindy Basen Katie Hobbie Keila L. Ortiz-Rolon

Heidi Clark