

Mesa Elementary School PTO General Meeting Notes

May 17, 2024, 8:30am

Attendees

Anna Abboud, April Busch, Carrie Simpson, Jill Walter, Josh Baldner, Justine Prothro, Lauren Weaver, Megan Maguire, Michelle Duvall, Paige Leonard, Pete Minor, Shayna Linn

Carrie

- Introduction question: what's the one word/phrase you want for your summer
- We need more volunteer support for Mesa events

Budget - Anna

- Overall there's been some differences in the budget that we weren't expecting, but the extra Thrives money has helped, we are still ending with about 20% for reserves
- This year we raised a bit extra for Thrives, but paras have cost more than expected
 - Josh explained para salary overage
 - 1st time in 17 years, Mesa overspent their projected budget
 - Mesa overspent on math intervention piece, Jocelyn exceeded (way more) the hours Mesa had budgeted for her
 - Mesa will not make this mistake again next year, but PTO is able to cover it
- Anna moved to spend extra \$15K to pay for para salary overage - PTO originally had planned to spend \$84K, but Mesa needs \$99K
 - Carrie seconded it
 - Josh abstained
 - Everyone else voted yes
- For proposed 2024/20225 budget:
 - PTO is going to fundraise for \$84K again, Mesa expects paras to cost less next year
 - Mesa will get more money from BVSD due to extra kindergarten
 - Josh has accounted for 4% COLA
 - Josh has worked the hours/numbers etc so that the expected para salary will be back around \$80-\$85K
 - Anna increased teacher classroom supply expenses so more small teacher projects can get approved
 - Josh will approve these requests, extra funds are about \$500/grade
 - Fun Run goal decreased to \$5K, we may not even have a goal
 - This is a placeholder in case we don't fully fund Thrives
 - Increased teacher appreciation budget, so we can cater another meal
- Anna moved to vote on the 2024/2025 proposed budget
 - Carrie seconded
 - Vote was unanimous
- Carrie moved to approve April meeting notes
 - Josh seconded
 - Vote was unanimous
- Carrie listed the people and positions for the potential 2024/2025 board:
 - Carrie Simpson, president

- Megan Maguire, vice president
- Jill Walter, co-secretary
- Lauren Weaver, co-secretary
- Anna Abboud, treasurer
- Paige Leonard, co-communications
- Justine Prothro, co-communications
- Carrie moved to vote in the proposed board
 - Michelle seconded
 - Vote was unanimous

April

- Reiterated the teachers really appreciate everything the PTO does
- Annas asked April if she could identify any parent(s) that would be good for volunteers
 - Josh & April are going to emphasize to parents at the start of the year how much Mesa relies on volunteers and how we need everyone
- Shayna mentioned how teacher Amazon Wishlists are really helpful

Mesa Oasis - Megan

- Pioneer has donated 5 large boulders, Just Turf donated many man hours
- The groundcover phase will start May 24 and be done in early June
 - Will have partial turf, partial breeze, boulders
- Sunny secured a \$3,000 grant for a local artist to paint a mural on the school wall
- Paige mentioned how all this information is on the Mesa PTO website

Principal's report

- Mesa is looking at school budgets
 - Josh had all teachers build budgets for next year; they have to stick to it
 - School supplies: Mesa will increase the ask at the start of the school year
 - Will include the promise that a teacher will not have a teacher wishlist, no ask for tissues/clorox wipes, etc
 - May have option to pay monthly
 - Start of year school supply fee is it, no nickel/dime throughout the rest of the year, one caveat:
 - Field trips are not all set in stone, those are paid separately
 - Most likely will have missed something, Mesa really tried to think of everything
 - School musical will be an optional donation; QR codes will be up but there will not be any tickets
- Mesa book fair
 - If Mesa uses Boulder Bookstore again next year
 - Think about advertising they're the sponsor, encourages people to buy local
 - Merchandise needs to be edited/improved
 - Can bring more trinkets and more books
- Josh spoke about the school culture
 - Great example being the Fun Run - all the kids participated, well attended
 - Even at the very end of the school year, Mesa staff still has a lot of energy

Fun Run - Michelle

- Michelle thought it went very well; less frills & glitz over the years has been better in a lot of ways
- Next year if Mesa has a strong need for money from the Fun Run, she suggested holding more pep rallies, collect money outside of school during drop-off, etc
 - We had a very small fundraising push this year, but still managed to collect \$9100, opportunity is there to collect more if needed
- Coffee was provided at the morning Fun Run and parents greatly appreciated it, we should repeat
- Anna asked Josh if Fun Run, Field Day and the Art Show could be in different weeks next year
- Jill & Megan pulled the 20 student names for the Sweet Cow free scoop cards (part of the Fun Run fundraising reward):
 - Edward Wunsch
 - Rona Fuentes
 - Harrison Campbell
 - Aleksandra Foley
 - Maya Koren
 - Alexander Lupfer
 - Ever Blakeway
 - Olivia Trifon
 - Noa Wood
 - Cassidy Colwyn
 - Paco Oyague
 - Sawyer Willett
 - Brooks Bojar
 - Isla Zayle
 - George VanRenen
 - Mia Rogart
 - Luna Holtz
 - Jack Glennon
 - Owen Kitching
 - Emilia Lichtle

Mesa Mentors

- Based on current enrollment, we have one extra mentor

Communications - Paige

- Paige asked for any suggestions for communications
 - Shayna said she really like the one pager that listed all the Spring events