

Indian Ridge Middle School  
PTO General Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 18, 2020

Meeting called to order at 6:02pm by PTO President Holly Kaplan

Introduction of board

Minutes from January 14, 2020 meeting were approved (First motion made by Andrea Tower and second motion made by Nicole Andrews).

Dr. Watson, IRMS teacher and Student Council Liaison, spoke about the African-American History Month art, poster and essay/poem contest. The art teacher will decide which pieces of art work will win first, second and third place. The winners of the poster contest and the essay/poem contest will also be decided. PTO will need to vote on prize amounts and what prizes will be given out (gift cards, etc.). This matter was shelved until next month due to quorum not being met.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Marie Nanni, PTO Treasurer, and approved (First motion made by Andrea Tower and second motion made by Nicole Andrews). The report included the following:

- Financial Activity was minimal this month
- Awaiting expenses from Straight A Cabaret
- Banner sales this year have brought in around \$17,000. Now selling banners for half-price since we are at the mid-year point.

We had two new PTO memberships. Andrea Tower is still contacting IRMS teachers and staff who have yet to open memberships.

The Principal's Report was read by Ms. Ortiz, PTO School Liaison, and the following items were discussed:

- School received positive feedback on the new format for Straight A Cabaret. Parents liked the new time and the smaller setting. Maybe combine 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade next quarter because of low straight "A" student numbers. Danielle Grieco was able to get free pastries from Publix and free bagels from Einstein's for all three days.
- Best Buddies had first meeting last week.
- IRMS will be having different career pathways next year for electives. Those pathways are as follows:
  - Financial Pathway, headed by Mr. and Mrs. Gurtov. Mr. Gurtov will get his certification. Financial Literacy is taught currently by Mr. Gurtov, but other financial classes will be offered.
  - IT Pathway, headed by Ms. Carter and Mr. Grant. They will be getting certification. Ultimate Software will be working with IRMS. 6<sup>th</sup> grade elective will be Multimedia, 7<sup>th</sup> grade class will be Information Technology and 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be Robotics. Coding meeting for girls with Ultimate Software is also planned.
  - Communication Pathway, headed by Ms. Didier. 6<sup>th</sup> grade elective Creative Media is currently being taught by Ms. Didier. She also teaches 7<sup>th</sup> grade Journalism and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Yearbook. IRMS will be looking for a new teacher for a TV Production class.
- The FSA Testing Calendar has been published. April 1<sup>st</sup> is the first day.

- Elective course selection cards for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be going out on 3/2. Cards are due back on 3/13. Teacher recommendations will be done on 3/18.

#### Old Business:

- Mr. Tony Grayson, BCPS Bldg & Maintenance, did not attend meeting, but is awaiting final cost for new gym floor. The District will provide additional funds to combine with the money allocated by the PTO.
- Dr. Watson spoke earlier in the meeting. Information is above.
- Straight A Cabaret discussed above in Principal's Report.
- Strive Awards are scheduled for 4/16 at 3pm. Teachers select students.
- Box Top Drive continues until 2/28. Parents are encouraged to scan receipts through Box Top app to give credit to school.
- "We Love Our Teachers" Coffee was a success. Chair, Danielle Grieco, received free pastries from Publix and free bagels from Einstein's. PTO only had to purchase coffee, fruit, cream cheese, etc. Other goodies were provided by PTO President, Holly Kaplan.

#### New Business:

- Spring Book Fair is scheduled for 2/24 - 2/28, with set up on 2/21. Sign up is online. Not sure of where book fair will be held.
- PTO will have a Krispy Kreme fundraiser on 3/5. PTO will be setting up online orders of whole boxes (dozen) to be delivered during students' 6<sup>th</sup> period classes.
- Katie Gittleman is looking into a Business Sponsorship Package to provide additional fundraising opportunities for the PTO. She was unable to attend this meeting, but will have further information next month.
- PTO is looking into selling a dry-fit IRMS polo shirt as a fundraiser.
- Information about 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance that was provided by Tracey George, Dance Co-chair, is as follows:
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance is scheduled for Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 7-10pm.
  - Theme is Red Carpet Ready/Oscar Night
  - Quote for dance is \$9,700. Includes decor, drapes, DJ, flowers. No cotton candy machine.
  - Looking into catering, perhaps going with hamburgers, salad, baked beans.
  - Would like to raise price to \$25-\$30 per person for ticket to 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance.
- Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade parent night is scheduled for Tuesday, 4/7 at 6pm. PTO needs volunteers to help sell t-shirts and other items.

Parent, Scott Kaplan, of Remax Realty, will be able to sponsor events for PTO. Possibly for Teacher Appreciation Week.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:16pm. Andrea Tower made first motion, then Nicole Andrews made second motion.

The next PTO meeting will be on March 10, 2020 at 6pm in the Media Center.

These minutes were prepared by IRMS Jaguar Jog Chair/Fundraising VP Nicole Andrews