

A.N. Pritzker School PTO

Monthly Meeting Minutes

August 27, 2008

- **Meeting was called to order at 5:10 pm.** Newly appointed PTO members were introduced, followed by introductions of other members/attendees.
- **Membership requirements and bylaws were discussed.** In previous years, PTO members had to pay annual dues of \$10.00 to be eligible to vote on PTO matters. A motion was presented, voted on and approved to remove annual membership dues.
- **Mission Statement:** Currently, the Pritzker PTO has no formal mission statement. The need to create and adopt a mission statement for the PTO was discussed. The mission statement will provide direction for all PTO sponsored activities, and guide us to ensure that our resources are spent in alignment with the goals of the PTO organization. Components of the other schools' mission statements were presented, and discussed. Members were asked to think about what they wanted this PTO to be and what should be included in the mission statement. Members were then asked to email mission statement suggestions to PritzkerPTO@Yahoo.com, or drop them off in the school office.
- **PTO Magazine:** Our subscription is up for renewal. Brenna Michael briefed the general membership on the purpose of the PTO Magazine. Pros and cons of continuing the subscription were discussed. No one in attendance has ever seen a copy of the publication. The PTO voted and approved the motion to table this issue until a magazine could be reviewed.
- **8to9 Program:** Objectives, and current enrollment was discussed. Brenna Michael outlined the finances for the program, and noted that many parents in the past have not fully paid for services provided. Suggestions were made to offer incentives to parents who pay their tuition on time, including providing discounts to families who pay for the entire semester up front. Brenna will provide ongoing updates on the 8to9 Program at future PTO meetings. Anyone with ideas to enhance the program, or stimulate timely tuition payment is asked to email PritzkerPTO@Yahoo.com, or contact Brenna Michael.
- **After school care:** Some parents have expressed a desire for after school care solution at Pritzker. Dr. Reese suggested that the Wicker Park Program could better meet the needs of our students. Sylvia Ramos will find out what percentage of the children who attend Wicker Park are Pritzker Students.
- **Market Day:** Fran Konieczko described the program for new members stated that Pritzker receives 10% of total sales. The pick up date for the first month will be September 17th. Fran also noted that the proceeds are still being earmarked for the computer lab.
- **Teacher wish lists:** It was decided that teachers should fill out a proposal for wanted items. The PTO will then vote on the wish listed item(s). Approval will be based on alignment with the PTO mission statement.
- **PTO Website:** The Pritzker PTO owns a URL that is not currently being fully utilized. Brenna Michael suggested that the PTO seek additional support to meet our technology needs. She requested that the PTO allow her to hire basic web hosting services to support the PTO URL. Susan Boush motioned to have the PTO fund up to \$15 per month, and the members voted to approve it. Ms. Abdullah-Smith suggested that we consider more comprehensive web hosting services than we currently have in place. Several other CPS schools use Educational Ventures. It was agreed that we would research other higher end alternatives before hiring a budget service at \$10-15 per month.
- **The Pritzker School Directory:** Brenna Michael explained the purpose of the school directory. Funding was discussed. Last year, the PAC funded the directory. Christina Terrell noted that the PAC has not met yet this year and she could not confirm whether the funds would be available to produce the directory again. Brenna Michael estimated that funding for the project should not exceed \$500 for supplies; i.e. ink, paper. John Hayford motioned for the PTO to fund up to \$500.00 for the directory. PTO voted and approved the motion.
- **The School Mural Project:** Sylvia Ramos thanked the PTO for supporting the summer school mural project, and applauded the efforts of the several artists and parent volunteers who made the project possible. She stated that more money is needed to preserve the artwork to apply a clear coating to prevent the paint from chipping. Several materials were suggested, and the pros and cons of some were discussed. Sylvia will submit a written proposal at the next PTO meeting. It was noted that some would like to see the walls repainted every couple of years.
- **The meeting adjourned at 6:50.**
- **Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 1st at 6:30pm. All Parents, Teachers and Staff are welcome to attend.**