



Families of Denison Montessori

December 2019 General Meeting Minutes

Families of Denison Montessori (FDM)

Date, Time and Location: December 12, 2019, 9:00 am in Room 101

Attendance: Ana Peterson, Kris Green, Kacey Bennet, Chelsea West, Alex Ledesma

1) Committee Reports

- a) Usborne - \$6319 raised
 - i) Usborne raised about \$6200 last year and scholastic was about \$5000.
 - ii) Ana and Kacey are considering a 3 day scholastic book fair in the spring
50% of the money raised went to the school in books. The teacher's wish lists were fulfilled and the rest were ordered by and delivered to the library.
 - iii) With scholastic we may consider taking the cash payout (25%) but previously we were frustrated with the time frame. We can also take a book payout (50%) and go to the warehouse or buy online. There may also be promotions for bonus money.
- b) Fun Run - FDM didn't get a chance to input ideas on how to spend the money before the vote went to the students. Next year we hope to have a chance to be a part of that process and look at ways to fill in the gaps in the budget as CSC originally planned.
 - i) If there was a set amount awarded to each teacher and paras so they could buy supplies/furniture and tangible items for the classroom together
- c) Treasury Report - After sixth grade trip, dragon's blood, Linda we have \$9000 in the account and we need to fulfill the teacher wish lists and then the field trip we'll have about \$5000. While this is high for us we could use the Soiree as one more big fundraiser so we have money in the bank starting next year. \$350 for Newman Center, DPS is paying for the bus. We still need to pay for sugar skulls and look at a Lower L field trip
- d) Soiree Pre Planning
 - i) Ana suggest we offer desserts only and coordinate the auction around a time when families are already at the school like a concert/watch me work night/grandparent's day
 - ii) Could do it with Mr Brown around a concert or an art show
 - iii) Last year we had way too much food but the food was good
 - iv) We need to make sure the evening activity would include all of the classes to get extended family or the most amount of people
 - v) Could set up auction in the library or food and have an open house feel to build community. Sixth graders could get involved if we let them know in advance so they can raise money for their trip in conjunction with what we offer
 - vi) Kacey thinks an online auction would be best and have it close on the night of the event
 - vii) Alex suggests Denison Achieves - what the kids have achieved throughout the year, small performances, art, music, food, dancing
 - viii) Art could be in the gym on the walls and the silent auction
 - ix) Alex will help with food, documents and design
 - x) February 27th - Denison Achieves Community Open House, The next day we don't have school but any Thursday would probably work like March 5
 - xi) Kacey will handle donations, Alex will help with the online, Amy and Angela may help



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- xii) Kris will get American Girl Dolls, Alex suggest hotels for staycations, toys, sports gear, homemade jewelry, Kacey will try at the Ritz and Fairfield/restaurant, Apple
- xiii) At the end of the year we can do a cocktail night, Waldorf is marketing it as a night to "Un-Wined" with vendors
- xiv) Keeping the weather in mind we don't want people to go home after school and then stay in instead of attending the event. We can have performances every 15 minutes and have everything open to come in when you need
- xv) We can talk to the teachers now to start working on ways they can show what the students have achieved, maybe a slideshow of kids working with Melinda who does the year book
- xvi) We need to talk to Coach to make sure we have access to the gym or the areas for setup
- xvii) Kacey and Alex will present the idea and date to Elsa asap. Teachers can showcase something they've been working on, it doesn't have to be anything extra
- xviii) Parent teacher conferences are the same day and we would already have people and food there. We can set up one table per class and keep the event in one area to keep noise down in the hallways.
- xix) Teachers will already be staying late and parents would love to see what the classes have been working on, auction can be on one end of the gym and art on the other side

2) On-going Business

- a) Epilepsy Awareness Update - Raised \$467 and Alex added to bring it to \$500
 - i) We donated on Colorado Gives Day so our donation was able to raise even more money
 - ii) Colorado gives had record donations this year and we were part of that
 - iii) Elsa is getting permission for the teachers to get paid Epilepsy training here first from the district and we'll have resources set up that will then go to other schools
 - iv) Alex is working with Connie to allocate our funds to us even next year
 - v) Alex is also working to pass the Seizure Safe school laws and working to be the first state in the country to have an epilepsy awareness license plate
- b) Teacher Wish list/Staff Appreciation
 - i) We previously discussed that FDM will purchase the items on the teacher wish lists that were not bought by the parents for the holidays
 - ii) We need a list of all staff and whether they are full/part time or 25%
 - iii) We'll try to keep the wish list budget to \$3-4000 and round up as applicable because we didn't give last year
 - iv) Some of the teacher's list are expensive but it shows the parents how much the Montessori materials cost. Parents can also buy a gift card to donate towards an item.
 - v) Kacey will talk to teachers to see what they really want this year.
- c) End of Year Newsletter - Kacey will give Ana the financial info she needs
- d) Staff Appreciation - We need more donations and FDM will bring up plates/silverware, etc

3) New items for Next Meeting Agenda

4) Public Comment

5) Adjournment 10:15