

Palmetto Middle School PTSA General Meeting
January 17th, 2019. 9:00 AM. Palmetto Middle School

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Gina Vinueza at 9:12 am in the media center.

2. Approval of Prior Minutes

A vote was taken and the minutes from the November 2018 meeting were approved.

3. President's Report, Gina Vinueza

• **Welcome**

• **Give Miami Day**

- Thank you to all of our supporters! We made \$1,638.61 total!!!

• **Update on Ms. Laughlin and I-Ready**

- We hope she will return next week. Any need that a parent or student has, they should reach out to her via email. She is checking her email from home.

• **Updates on School Facilities (Thank you to Linda Dwyer for attending the meeting!):**

- Music Room (Start June 2019- finished by December 2019)-New roof, completely gutted and redesigned, completely new, and independent A/C just for that room.
- Bond Project (start by 01/2020 and finished in 1-1 ½ year)
 - Complete gut and renovation of auditorium
 - New Windows throughout the school
 - All new A/C units
 - 6 COMPLETELY RENOVATED BATHROOMS
 - Renovation of Locker room to include new lockers and A/C!
- A/C in Language Arts Wing ASAP! It needs to be replaced. Linda Dwyer brought this issue to the bond committee. It is in the process of being replaced.

• **Additional Science Grant & Update on all the awesome things our Science students are doing!**

- The family donated an additional \$22,000 this year to PMS and \$50,000 to the high school. Our science clubs are doing so much with this money. They are competing and winning competitions! Our teams have qualified for nationals.

• **Need Volunteers for the Nominating Committee for next year's Board!**

- We need at least five volunteers for this committee (more is ok but must be an uneven number) and they can be incoming 6th grade parents. If interested, please contact Erica Watts, Chair pro tem pending the election by the committee of a Chair. PalmettoMiddleVolunteers@gmail.com

• **Listeners Training**

- January 29th, 2019 (handouts being passed around) at NOVA Southeastern. No previous experience needed. Can be any adult, not just parents.

• **Please email me with any questions, suggestions, ideas, concerns ANYTIME**

4. Treasurer's Report, Amy Jellson

- We are doing well. Everyone continue to turn in the correct forms when you need money, reimbursement, etc.

5. Principal's Report, Mr. Gonzalez

- We have printed out our data reports comparing iReady from diagnostic one and two. Our data mirrors last year's results, but we are seeing learning gains from one grade to the next. Math is showing greater gains. Data chats will occur next week.
- Subject selection should occur in February both in house and in elementary schools as well. PMS will go to the elementary schools in February.
- 8th graders have been receiving instruction related to high school subject selection. A team from Palmetto Senior will be coming out the PMS.

- Magnet application has closed and students will be notified in March.
- The next emergency drill will occur next week. They must occur each month.

6. **Student PTSA Representative Report, Audrey March**

a. **Art Show- May 18, 2019**

- Will be at Pinecrest Gardens.

b. **NJHS (Samantha Gitlin)**

- Students will be going to Disney to do a team building workshop. Will also possibly go to Magic Kingdom. Will either do it all in one day or stay overnight. Will possibly do it March 21-22.

c. **Inclusion and Diversity Training Feedback & Suggestions for any future student workshops**

- The training was yesterday for 8th graders. Suggested doing this as an opt out the next time they do the training. Many students did not go because they did not want to miss class due to end of grading period.
- Parent said that they did not mix up the kids/classes well.

7. **EESAC updates (Mr. Ainsley Dixon Business/Community Representative- presented by Gina Vinueza)**

- Adding some things to school culture. Giving training to teachers to providing differentiated training.
- Counselors will match academically advanced students with other students to help them.
- Meet with tier two and three students to motivate them to bring scores up.

8. **Vice President Reports**

a. **1st VP-Operations, Tara Hudson (presented by Gina Vinueza)**

- Student Suggestions, Questions, Ideas, Concerns Box
- Holiday Lunch- Thank you to ALL
 - Happened in December. Was wonderful.
- Media Center Update
 - The person who is hired has not yet been formally trained. Children are able to check out books. We are in process.
- Keurig is much appreciated by teachers and we are always in need of donation of k-cups.

b. **2nd VP-Programs, Elyssa Lewis**

- Turkey Bowl- Thank you to ALL
- Reflections- CONGRATS TO ALL OF OUR AMAZING PARTICIPANTS AND WINNERS!
 - Pictures of the students are online.
 - The participants did a wonderful job.
- Mini Grants have been awarded!
 - We are getting whole school vocabulary software, math supplies, social studies books, speakers, garment racks, science supplies, etc.
- Valentine's Day Dance 2/14/19 and Gram Sales 2/4-2/13 (please sign up!)
 - From 3:15 to 5:00. Students will need a ride home. We have a DJ/Dancers/Entertainers coming.
- Spelling Bee-1/23/19 (Elizabeth Heise)
 - We need to change the culture of the Spelling Bee. We need to have teachers get the students excited about it.
 - There has been some miscommunication from the teachers regarding the Spelling Bee.
 - Wednesday, January 23 at 9:30 am.

c. **3rd VP-Ways and Means, Maritza Shapiro**

- Mural/Brick Fundraiser
 - We have everything set to start selling pennants in February. We will start with 8th graders and go down grades. They will be displayed in breezeway.
- Family, Flix, and Food TONIGHT!!!! No Drop off please 😊
 - Film starts at 7:00 pm (gates open at 6:30 pm)
 - Peruvian Bites, World Wide Burgers, Blondie Cones and Kona Ice are the food trucks coming. They have agreed to give us a percentage back. Tickets have been sold this week and will be on sale at the door. Popcorn and soda will also be sold.

- Children should not be dropped off. They should go with an adult.
- Diversity and Inclusion Training
 - The training was yesterday with the 8th graders. The students worked in small groups. Next year we hope to do it with the 6th graders as well.

9. Advocacy Chair, Carrie Feit

- Inclusion/Empathy Workshop Saturday, February 2nd (place TBD) for volunteers/parents
 - We have 25 slots available. We hope to create a collective culture to allow our students to be themselves. We need parents on board to help us create these spaces in our community. This will probably be at Pinecrest Gardens.
- Meet Jo Ivester, Youth Transgender Activist-Wednesday, March 13th at 9am in Media Center
 - She wrote a book, along with her transgender son, about transitioning. She goes around raising awareness in the community.

10. Legislative Chair, Elizabeth Heise

- Legislative Updates
 - There was a training last night with MDCPS PTSA. The legislative session starts in March. We need to be aware and ready. We need to look at policies and not just party affiliation.
 - Katie Abbott informed us about what is going on in Pinecrest. Tonight there is a meeting at 6pm to talk about ways to fund water infrastructure for Pinecrest. Send an email to council@pinecrest-fl.gov with questions and opinions, etc.

11. Volunteer Chair, Erica Watts (reported by Gina Vinueza)

- Volunteer Updates
 - Erica will be in charge of nominating committee.

12. New Business/Announcements/Suggestions/Open Mic

- It was brought up that PMS should have a magnet fair to discuss the magnet choices available for the high schools.
- You can purchase an ad for the yearbook online and on the portal. You will also need to fill out the form.
- You can purchase yearbooks online and on the portal.
- Discussed giving students/families ability to do online payments for more activities at school.
- Homeland Security will be doing a training on Human Trafficking on January 29 at 6-8pm.
- Vaping Education on January 23 at 6:30 pm (parents only)
- Freebie is now available to residents in Pinecrest. It is an app on the phone and is a free service. There are two electric cars that will run 7 days a week. It runs within Pinecrest and to the busway on US 1. Ages 10 and up can ride without an adult.

13. Important Dates:

1/17/19- Palmetto Middle FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
 1/18/19- NO SCHOOL
 1/21/19- NO SCHOOL
 1/23/19- Spelling Bee (9:30 am)
 1/23/19- Vaping Education for PARENTS ONLY
 (Palmetto Senior High 6:30pm)

1/29/19- Human Trafficking and Safety presentation
 for Palmetto Middle parents and teens(6pm-8pm)
 2/4-2/13- Valentine's gram and dance ticket sales
 2/14/19- Palmetto Middle General PTSA meeting
 (9am)
 2/14/19- 2nd Annual Valentine's Day Dance

14. The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 pm.

**Next General Meeting
 February 14, 2019 @ 9:00 am
 Palmetto Middle School Media Center**