

WEareSCPA PTSO

General Meeting

December 3, 2024 / 6:30 PM/In Person and Zoom

- Welcome (Kevin Whitman)
 - Called meeting to order at 6:34 pm.
 - Welcome back from Thanksgiving break.
- President's Update
 - Held second annual Soiree in November.
 - Big thank you to all who planned and attended the very successful event.
 - The new tables for the outside area by the playground are together and getting ready for finishing. (Joe Brennan)
- November Event Summary
 - Dinner was provided to teachers from Currity for the Parent Teacher Conference night. Well received and appreciated.
- Vice President's Update (Bridget Kennedy)
 - CrossWalk Request (Andy Shenk)
 - Andy is a current SCPA parent who wrote and presented a proposal to the City of Cincinnati to add a crosswalk onto 12th between school and Washington Park.
 - The proposal was denied after a conversation between CPS District and the City of Cincinnati.
 - The reasoning for the denial was that they did not want to have direct foot traffic to that area on 12th because of the Street Car track.
 - Will compile a list of city locations where crosswalks cross the street car tracks. Multiple exist in the city, one a block away in front of Music Hall.
 - CPS District also indicated they could not provide a crossing guard.
 - Need to follow up who they spoke with at CPS District. Mr. Owens will follow up in regards to the district's position.
 - Will invite them to a LSDMC meeting in the future.
- Fundraising Opportunities (Kevin Whitman)
 - Soiree Recap (Brigid Huey)
 - It was a very successful event.
 - Made \$3,600 for an increase of \$600.
 - 60 people in attendance. Numbers down from 100 last year.
 - New people involved in planning the event.
 - Alum performers donated their performances and were well received,
 - Exploring a more central location for next year. Need to balance location with cost. Our current location at Pebble Creek CC is very generous to us and helps promote profit.

- Will be looking into moving the date up in the school calendar. A good opportunity to launch the school year. Ticket sales available right at back to school orientation.
- Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities
 - January Auditions
 - PTSO will provide a comfort station as well as volunteers to staff the table.
- Principal Update (Mr. Owens)
 - All families should have received an intent to return form. 72% of the families have filled out the form. This form is very important for future planning. Another reminder will be sent out.
 - Teresa Summ-Hass has asked for help in the new School Spirit Shop. If there are parents looking to earn some money they are looking for help 2 - 4:15 pm on Tuesday and Thursdays.
 - Focus is on completion of Winter Bench Marks and semester exams from here to the end of the semester. Early vacations will not be excused absences. Teachers will work one on one with families to provide work but the absences will not be excused and grades will be submitted by set deadlines.
 - Working through early drop offs and how to handle them. Moved to one on one conversations. This cannot happen but we are still averaging 60-75 K-6 students being dropped off before school starts. SCPA does not have the staff to manage this.
 - The Y cannot currently support the program at SCPA.
- Artistic Director Update (Ms. Perrino)
 - Ms. Perrino is currently out on medical leave.
 - The Nutcracker is happening!
 - 12/20 is Alumni Day. Look forward to welcoming alumni back and performing for them.
 - Winter Boards are coming up.
- Open Q & A
 - 2025-26 Unified Schedule for all grades. This was recommended to the Superintendent. Mr. Owens did attend the latest meeting and feels that this may not move forward. ILT Chair, Ms. Simon has formally submitted the schools concerns with this recommendation.
 - The Elementary Drama information email failed to send so the parents involved received it today while their students were in class. Parents needed to communicate the delayed pick up with students and with no direct communication available, messages were left. At the time the parent raising the question spoke with her student they had not received the message, at least not in a timely manner. Mr. Owens confirmed that calling the main office and leaving a message for your child is the appropriate thing to do in this kind of situation. He will follow up with staff to ensure that parent communications be given proper urgency.
 - Can parents attend Alumni Day? Yes, they may.

Kevin Whitman moved to end the meeting at 7:07 pm. Bridget Kennedy seconded.

