

2/28/15 PTO meeting

AGENDA

Playground/timeline- Br. Bassem

Thermometer- money earned at each fundraiser- Sohela

Wish list, Technology/classroom- Summayah

Upcoming Events- Nadirah

THERMOMETER- MONEY EARNED AT EACH FUNDRAISER- SOHELA

\$18,000 in our account presently.

Sohela went over how much we made at every event- refer to thermometer

Currently making the most profit out of Pizza Fridays

Sohela asked for any improvement ideas and that we need more volunteers for pizza Fridays

One mother suggested we ask class by class each Friday for 2 parent volunteers- teachers will have to help with requesting this from classroom parents.

One mother stated that we didn't seem to need that much help when she volunteered since the teachers come to take the pizza.

PTO board answered that we have the same people doing it every week and we need different parents to help.

One mother suggested, we should assign parents instead of signing up on line for pizza volunteering

Some parent concerns:

Should not turn every gathering into fundraising

Because of this, the same people are showing up every time

Bake sales are offering unhealthy items

Why are we only fundraising with baked goods and pizza? We need healthy options.

We all agree that we want our children to eat healthier, but we have 2 obstacles

- 1) that the children don't want most of the healthy options, and
- 2) the healthier options are much more expensive.

We cannot sell fruit at a bake sale- we will have to do something other than a bake sale.

One parent suggested- Ex: sell cupcakes but healthy cupcakes.

Baked goods with quality ingredients would have to be priced much higher (ie\$4/cupcake rather than\$2/cupcake)

Practically speaking, we also have to accumulate money for the new playground.

Brother Radwan suggested-Have health conscious parents make a committee, separate from PTO for health or specifically healthy food concerns.

Sister Maisoon agreed to be leader of that committee as long as long as they are not pressured for time to make money for a project like the playground.

Br. Radwan suggested that we have parents prepare foods and sell it at ICBR side.

A parent complained that teachers are rewarding kids with candy and sugary rewards. We need names of teachers who are doing this so we can correct it.

The Fence is another concern one mother brought up.

Br. Radwan answered

- 1) 3 opening where kids have lunch, by the sink and by the youth room and one other. There will be a big fence so area will be enclosed- Construction will start within 10 days.

Issue of fence came about because we decided to move more classes over to the ICBR side.(ie: Elementary at GSA and high school and middle school at ICBR.)

There are not enough parking spaces.

3 groups fundraising for 3 different causes. You should know who is fundraising for what according to who books the masjid that night.

IE. If GSA board fundraises, its for high school construction- about 1.5 million dollars total needed.

In mid summer, they might start digging

For parking, there is an idea requested by the city- to create a 3rd lane for turning into the school.

Another idea- Staggered start so all students don't start the same day or same time. Ex: elementary start at 7 and high school start another time.

School administration should not be involved in fundraising. If they do, it might be under the hat of another group.

WISH LIST

Wish list is up and running.

KG2 students each have their own tablet. These tablets have helped the SRI scores soar. The children and teachers want technology.

One student was below and now, with the use of the tablet, her SRI scores are soaring.

UPCOMING EVENTS

1 event per month

Pampering event for mothers- no brothers- minimal charge. Babysitting available.

April event like sports jam and fall fest for purpose of fundraising.- Men and women to have different events.

May- carwash and BBQ-eat while your car is cleaned.

Garage sale had a good turnover for a few hours in the morning- perhaps do another one in May with BBQ.

QUESTIONS FOR PRESIDENT

NO QUESTIONS

New parents- President asked about their experience at GSA so far. Their reply was that they love it here. The school is organized and has control over their classrooms. They didn't have control in the Islamic school in Maryland, where they move from. Their children love it-No anxiety transferring mid year.- Tablets are an awesome idea- playing and learning at the same time encourages students to read more.