**Friends of Syracuse Latin General Board Meeting**

**April 17, 2018**

**Welcome and Introductions of Board Members and Attendees**

-Thank you for coming out and joining us! Please remember to sign in.

**Principal Report - Mrs. Manard**

NYS Assessments (Computer-Based Testing)

* Completed first round of Computer-Based Testing in grades 3 and 4 for the NYS ELA assessments
* Fully prepared with technology and student/staff understanding of how to utilize the online program
* NYS Math assessments are the week of April 30-May 4
  + May 1st and 2nd – 3rd grade
  + May 2nd and 3rd – 5th grade
  + May 3rd and 4th – 4th grade

School Leadership Team (Reminder)

* Parent Representatives are: Cheryl Lowery, 1st grade parent ([calowery@syr.edu](mailto:calowery@syr.edu))  
  Jalecia Benson, 2nd grade parent ([jalicia.benson@gmail.com](mailto:jalicia.benson@gmail.com))
* Parent Representatives rotate every other year. Ms. Lowery is in her first year serving on the team and Ms. Benson is in her second year serving on the team.
* Please feel free to e-mail questions / concerns to parent representatives, Mrs. Manard or Ms. Hunter that you would like more information on from SLT OR utilize the recently added link on the SLT page on our website on [www.syracusecityschools.com](http://www.syracusecityschools.com) and enter your questions, concerns, suggestions for agenda items there! (<https://goo.gl/forms/XCzipfOkMLtgxPQB2>)
* During SLT, we discuss School Climate Team, Current School Programming, Recent Academic Data, Family Engagement Opportunities, etc.
* Remaining meetings are 5/1; 5/22; 6/12
* The 4th Quarter Enrichment cluster will be based on Genius Hour, students will research topics of interest. Enrichment will happened multiple times throughout the week, within the classroom. It will look different in each classroom dependent on grade levels and students will make presentations. Presentations can vary from traditional power point to you tube videos and other styles as well. 4th quarter enrichment is shorter because of testing.
* Think like an Engineer will be our parent engagement event in first week of June in grade level bands. K-1, 2-3, 4-5 and special needs rooms. Look for more information to come!
* STEAM night was well attended, almost 300 people
* Mrs. Manard is thinking of doing a fund raiser through food services with Smart Snacks to fund a climbing wall in the gymnasium. Students can bring in money to buy a smart snacks during lunchtimes. Director Murphy of Food services will create a flyer to let families know what snacks are available and what ingredients are in each snack. This will be for next 2018-2019 school year.

**Middle School Climate Report - Parent Committee Reps (Sheriah Dixon, Ben Goodman, Sapna Kollali)**

-April’s meeting was primarily focused on the physical space of the building. We did a walk through with Dr. Diflorio and Chief DeSantas, it was decided 75 kids per grade would be the max with the given space of the building.

-It was noted that there may be needs to change the physical space of the building. For example, more parking, possibly air conditioning, however, no renovations are scheduled for our building for 7 years.

-We followed up on the March topic of what is the Latin curriculum? There is no specific Latin curriculum, we can create what we want Latin to look like based on the guidelines and standards we are given. We would like to provide a variety of experiences for our students so they are ready to enter any high school based on their interests.

-The minutes from the meetings are always posted on the Latin school website.

**President’s Report - Brea Allers**

-We continue to encourage people to use the comment/question box. However, most of the comments that are coming in, we are not able to answer as a PTO. Please utilize the reps emails from the SLT and outside resources if you have school related comments/questions.

-We are trying as a PTO to build a community by creating social events and doing fund raising for students to go on field trips. We are trying to foster positive relationships with the school and community.

-Huge shout out to Brandy Mosier and Katie Cramer for organizing a fantastic 1st grade social event! It was a great turn out. The 2nd grade event is Thursday from 6-7pm, if you have cardboard boxes, bring them, but supplies are not needed. It is an event for the 2nd grade students but siblings are welcome.

-The 3rd recognition breakfast is on Friday and we are all set with volunteers.

-Kristina Kamery and Trista Phillipson are heading the Teacher Appreciation dinners. They are in need of maracas and sombreros or Mexican ties. If you have any of these items to borrow please e-mail [kkamery@scsd.us](mailto:kkamery@scsd.us) or [trista.phillpson@gmail.com](mailto:trista.phillpson@gmail.com)

-Dr. Rob Diflorio (Director of Syracuse Latin and Pre-K) may be at the May PTO meeting to answer general questions or we may have a separate meeting. This is to be determined.

**Treasurer Report - Margaret Chajka (Reported by Kerry Z.)**

-Grade levels are submitting requests for funds for upcoming fund raisers. We are using the money raised from the Read-A-Thon to fund these trips.

-Kindergarten is going to the Wild Animal Park, its $7 per student plus money for buses

-1st grade is doing an In-class field trip that costs $540, we will fully fund this event

-2nd grade went to the Most, students paid $5 and the PTO paid $720

-3rd grade trip is $8 per student plus one bus, $720

-4/5Chiefs Game around $600 total

-The requests that have come in have asked for partial payments but require all students to bring in money. We raised a lot of money from Read-A-Thon. Should we pay for the entire trip and not ask for money from families?

-Should we establish a small savings fund for each grade level so a large field trip at the end of the year can be taken?

-Mrs. Manard have a Title 1 fund that is dedicated to field trips so all the grade levels will be going on an additional field trip this year. Those trips are to be determined.

-Should we only ask for $2 for each student for any field trip and then PTO cover the rest? **Voted on and approved!**

-Should we put the money left over to fund the rock wall or other maker space items? At the end of the year, we can look at our budget and decide where to move money or spend it depending on what is important to us?

**School Spirit Sale - Karen Jenks**

-Hopefully in May, the big change is it’s an online format which saves times and money for PTO

-Items will come home with students after it’s delivered and sorted

-Mrs. Manard will provide a spot in the library to use the computers to order if needed

-The menu of items may be changed depending on what sold last time, store will be open for 2 weeks with a 2 week processing time

**Open Roundtable Discussion​ – *suggested topics***

3rd & 4th Grade social activities- 3rd grade possibly BINGO –We still need a 4th grade volunteer to organize a social event

Spring family or student event – possible Gannon’s Night event