

PTO September 2025 Meeting Minutes

Tuesday September 16th, 2025 6:30pm

I. Welcome & Introductions

In Attendance: Laura Eastman, Daniel Momont, Dana Hellgren, Emily Litznerski, Laura Chydillo, Caitlin Malkus, Lisa Barker, Anne Gillespie, Laura Valderrama, Mick Scalf, Ken Kubo, Lucy Richards, Brooke Ward, Sofia Onar, Omer Onar, Julie Harari, and several attendees on Zoom: Karthik, Bevin Roue, Eric Boateng, Leo Kucek, Azusa Kubo Harashima, Luhong Zhang, Eunice Badoe, Tripti Singh, Zhi Lin, Akpene, and Lu Lu.

II. Principal Update

- A. 376 students enrolled, 4 new staff
- B. Shorewood School Improvement Plan
 - a. Goals related to three categories (College, Community & Career; Thriving Schools; Black Excellence). Specific Goals: Improving literacy and math test scores by 8% overall and 10% for focus students, Achieving 90% attendance, Creating sense of belonging
- C. Shorewood Hills Mission Statement “We will develop a welcoming school community of global students through
- D. Student Profile: I work to become an effective learner, I work to become an ethical person. I work to Contribute to a better world
- E. Piloting “Sown to Grow” program along with Sandberg Elem. Weekly 30 minute lessons, feelings check-in.
- F. MMSD is launching Building for the Future school programming. Currently gathering data with parent survey and also evaluating boundaries. Preparation phase is October 2025-February 2026. Engagement will be February 2026-January 2027. Final recommendation tentatively goes to the Board in February 2027.

III. Teacher/Staff Updates

(N/A)

IV. Treasurer Report - Daniel

- A. 2025-2026 Proposed Budget Vote
 - a. Sources of income include Annual Appeal, Read-a-thon. Expenses include Fall Clean-Up, Spirit Gear, Yearbook, food for teacher conference week, Teacher Discretionary Fund, teacher special request fund increased to \$5,000. Aim to help another PTO through Pay it Forward
 - b. Lucy Richards proposed to approve budget as outlined by Daniel. All Board members present voted to approve.
- B. Almost \$20,000 in money market account, moving to account with higher interest rate
- C. Last year, we were able to contribute to staff projects. In addition, we benefitted from

Employer Match contributions during annual appeal through Benevity account


V. Past Events

A. 4K/5K Playdate: Good turnout, good way to meet new families

B. Popcorn Sale

a. Generally twice a month. Grade level teams or clubs can earn money.

VI. Upcoming Events

 PTO Activities 2025- 2026.docx

A. September 26th- Popcorn Sale. Sign Up Genius on shespto.org for all upcoming Popcorn Sales under Volunteer heading. For 9/26 sale, we welcome any volunteers.

B. October 5th - Fall Clean-Up. Looking for coordinator for this event. Would be responsible for leading teams of students and parents, arrange for tools to be available, walk through the grounds in advance to plan areas of clean up. We plan to reach out via Parent Square, Facebook and the website to see if any non-Board member may be interested in leading.

C. October 10th - Popcorn Sale. No beneficiary signed up yet.

D. October 13th - Picture Day (Laura E.). Level I volunteers will be needed (generally for shifts between 8:00-12:30). Look for Parent Square announcement to come.

E. October 13th-October 22nd- Costume/Winter Gear Collection. We collect Halloween costumes and accessories as well as coats, hats, mittens, etc. to redistribute back to families in a swap format. Looking for coordinator for this event. ParentSquare announcement to come.

F. October 23rd-Costume Swap. Families can go to Door 1 and Door 4 after school to select a costume. Looking for coordinator for this event. ParentSquare announcement to come.

G. October 25th- Fall Festival 1-4pm. Families are invited for games, DJ, concessions, etc. Looking for co-coordinator for this event. One parent has volunteered to help coordinate, but she would like a teammate. ParentSquare announcement to come.

H. October 30th- November 4- Scholastic Book Fair (Laura C.). Reach out to Laura C if you are interested in helping with this event.

VII. After School Clubs/Classes

A. Chess Club (Generally 2-5th graders). Fall, Winter and Spring sessions. Tuesdays from 6-7pm in the LMC. Tournament will be January 10.

B. Future Problem Solvers (FPS) Coordinated by Ms. Richmond. For 4th and 5th grade students. Runs end of September through February.

C. Computer Science Club. New this year. Coordinated by parent of 4th/5th grade students. Learn computer science basics in fun exciting way. Includes online competitions. Parent Omer Onar volunteered to be available to help with Computer Science Club. Laura E will put him in touch with the Club Coordinator.

D. Please contact the PTO if you have any ideas for future clubs! We would love to help you get yours get started.

VIII. Miscellaneous

A. Spirit Gear/Online Store (Daniel)

- a. In past years, we were able to give everyone a shirt at no cost. (Last happened two years ago and PTO paid \$3000) Families were also able to donate to offset the cost of shirts. If we had an online store (would be open for 2 weeks), families would have the opportunity to purchase a hat or sweatshirt. Funds would help close the gap on the cost of t-shirts. Items are printed to order. Think It Then Ink It is the local business.
- b. Currently no logo. In years past we have created our own or had the print shop create one. Is there time for a logo competition students could participate in? Could a contest be part of art class? If we want the shirts available later in the year, the logo contest could be a viable idea. QR code during parent-teacher conferences?
- c. Committee formed: Laura V, Lucy Richards, Daniel Momont, Lisa Barker, Anne Gillespie. Laura V will reach out to Ms. Bailey (art teacher)

IX. Adjourn at 7:36pm