**Manoa Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, March 19, 2025**

In Attendance:

*President: Kristen Osborne*

*Vice President: Erin Canuso*

*Recognition Secretary: Elizabeth Marshaleck*

*Corresponding Secretary: Katie Mummey*

*Treasurer: Kevin Moran*

*Recording Secretary: Maggie Fox*

Liz Meischeid, Joe Mignone, Jake Frayre, Michelle Pierson, Sarah Charlton, Ms. Miriam Miller, Dr. Adelizzi, Special Guest Chris Shelton From the Haverford Township School District School Board

**Introductions**

**Faculty Updates**

Dr. Adelizzi

* Volunteer opportunities can be found in the Manoa Messenger; Make sure clearances are on file
* Field day planning has started
* Planning for next year has already begun; class selection process will give parents more input this year about class lists
* Registration is open for grades K-5, the sooner we know how many are registered the better to help with staffing for next year

Ms. Miller

* Has started doing voice overs and put the “a- apple-a” chant to music and will be at the Media Film Festival doing voice overs
* Scholastic Book Fair money was generous, we loved being able to use the resources offered through the catalogue
* Mrs. Drury wanted to convey how grateful she is for volunteers and what a difference it makes in her class; she is looking for magazines to use
* Mrs. Satterfield said the Science Fair is going to be 5/7 from 6-7 pm in the gym, more info to come
* We love the faculty takeovers!

Kristen Osborne

* Please let teachers know we are reaching out to grade level teachers re: end of year picnics

*Elizabeth Marshaleck gave Ms. Miller a Manoa blanket*

**School Board Presentation**

Dr. Chris Shelton

* We try to go around and update people on current events including our Superintendent search, federal level changes, and renovations
* The Process to hire a new superintendent:
  + DCIU created a candidate pool by engaging community through a survey and developing a leadership profile through community input
  + We started with 38 candidates in the first round, a very competent pool
  + We went through 3 rounds of interviews and Dr. Matthew Hayes was our finalist
  + Dr. Hayes was voted in 3/12
* Dr. Matthew Hayes:
  + Dr. Matthew Hayes dug into the district and was well prepared for the interview
  + He is local and taught at Roosevelt Elementary School in Philadelphia
  + Dr. Hayes comes from Tampa Florida where he was a regional superintendent and had overseen more buildings than we have in Haverford Township
  + He will start engaging soon and will start July 1, 2025
* Federal Level Changes:
  + Funding:
    - We receive $1.8 million in federal funding, just over 1% of our budget
    - Manoa is a Title 1 school so we are federally funded
    - Executive orders are so vague and lacking in detail so we are not sure what it will mean for our funding
    - If we were to lose funding, we would have to make a decision on how to support federally employed staff; Do we use local funding?
  + DEI:
    - We are not changing anything and are currently going through strategic planning with teachers and staff
    - Workshop is being held and will remain very consistent with our current DEI initiatives
  + Overall federal executive orders are in conflict with PA constitutional protections and our district is beholden to state
* Renovations:
  + Chatham Park to be finished in September with a two story addition added to the front
  + Next renovation is Coopertown followed by Manoa
  + There is a strategic long term plan
    - Katie Mummey asked if this plan is publicized somewhere; Answer: No
  + Dr. Adelizzi: We do our due diligence to make sure the school is maintained; I walk the building with the Maintenance Department to make notes and ideas for change are brought to the School Board
  + Renovating includes expanding
  + We are trying to future proof renovations to allow for full day Kindergarten based on feedback we have gotten through the community
  + Elizabeth Marshaleck: where does the Middle School fall in the renovation? Answer: the cafeteria is being expanded to accommodate more students and I will get back to you about more
* Questions to Dr. Chris Shelton:
  + Kristen Osborne: Have you had to make any changes so far due to the federal changes?
    - Answer: We received a letter to comply with initiatives that don’t provide equity and were told to stop any initiatives or hiring practices involving seeking diversity. We provided no follow up action and the 2 week deadline we were given to comply has since passed with no issue
  + Ms. Miller: Is our plan to keep what we have in place to keep Title 1 Reading Specialists?
    - Answer: We don’t know what the situation will be with federal funding. The Act 1 index allows us to raise taxes to a certain level that we can’t exceed. If we lose federal funding, we will be constrained by the Act 1 Index to raise certain funds. This is tied to inflation which was 4% this year. If we go above the Act 1 Index, we need to seek exemption from the Department of Education or get a referendum from the community
  + Joe Mignone: Will you speak about the current shortage with substitute teaching?
    - Answer: There is a statewide teacher shortage. I’m unsure of specific reasons why we aren’t able to recruit substitutes; Haverford is a desirable district to work.
    - Dr. Adelizzi: The job fair had a really good turnout. They would start immediately after emergency certification.
  + Kristen Osborne: What do you love about being on the school board?
    - Answer: My mom was a school teacher for 30 years. I value public education and am a product of public education. My passion is education for all students which is what the public school is for.

**Motion to Approve February Minutes:** Jake Frayre; second: Michelle Pierson

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Kevin Moran

* All the fundraisers have really been successful, we appreciate your support
* General fundraising currently includes: Manoa Madness, March Madness Block Pool, and Harlem Globetrotters
* Freddy’s and Chipotle were successful thanks to Sarah Charlton and all of your families
  + We made $483 from Freddy’s and $253 from Chipotle
* Variety show isn’t meant to be a fundraiser but $195 was made from carnation sales
* Membership dues: We were $1000 away from our proposed budget goal so we did the Dues Derby and made $500/600 to close the gap
* The 4th Grade won the Dues Derby and will race Dr. Adelizzi as a prize
* A lot of families don’t realize they haven’t paid dues and we do rely on a percentage of families to pay especially in the fall

**IDC**

Joe Mignone

* The School Board came to our last meeting and we discussed Dr. Hayes
* Dr. Reusche was superintendent for 10 years
* There are 4 school board spots open for re-election next year
* Check out school board and committee meetings, they are available online for people who want to see

**Fundraising**

Sarah Charlton

* Chipotle was successful
* Nifty Fifty’s will be April 9, 5-9 pm
* Rita’s on West Chester Pike and Steel will be May 7, 4-8
* These are a good opportunity to get together and not cook
* I’m open to suggestions; text me or email me

**Fifth Grade Updates**

Maggie Fox

* T Shirt contest winners were Charlotte Fox, Cici Cozzi, and Annabel Gandy
* They are being printed now

**Field day T Shirts**

Kristen Osborne

* We are making our final push for collecting all sizes
* If we don’t have a size put down, we will use our best guess so please put your t shirts sizes in
* T shirts will be provided for every student at Manoa
* They are really cute this year, thank you to Maggie Bieter and Kylie Cappello

**Yearbooks Update**

Maggie Fox for Carie Litz

* We are planning to finish up in the next 2 weeks so that we can get the proofs to each homeroom teacher for a once over. It's looking great so far!
* We are down to only 15 missing baby photos for 5th grade. Thank you to the teacher's and homeroom parents who have helped with this! <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1WAAqoyW8h99La5XpT_3RjgtgsY9R-7T40CQw76XBRxw/edit?usp=sharing>
* If you have any good staff or student pictures, we can still fit them in. Email to [manoayearbook24.25@gmail.com](mailto:manoayearbook24.25@gmail.com)
* We will be taking pictures at Manoa Madness and the Harlem Wizards game and have a page for those events.
* We are 3/4 of the way to our sales goal of 400 books! Sales are open until the beginning of May. Thank you for sharing the sales link in the newsletter and on Facebook. If anyone is unsure of whether they purchased a book, they can email to manoayearbook24.25@gmail.com and I can check and let them know

**Manoa Variety Show**

Kristen Osborne

* It was an amazing night
* We appreciate all of the staff involvement
* There were 53 acts
* A lot goes into it and it provides kids a chance to shine
* Kate Hertzog has been a chair for the past 3 years and involved for 5; her youngest is graduating so we will need a new chair next year

**Book Fair**

Elizabeth Marshaleck

* Maggie Esteves, Merete Ohme, and Lindsay Koffle ran the book fair
* Scholastic dollars have been used rather than cash, so the teachers get a lot more that way
* If anyone missed the bulk order, we do have free shipping available; they can reach out to the Manoa Book Fair committee to put in an order

Kristen Osborne

* We do have a little extra scholastic dollars available so if anyone sees something above $180 reach out to Dr. Adelizzi

**Manoa March Madness Block Pool**

Kristen Osborne:

* The tournament starts tomorrow
* We put together pools and have sold 36 blocks so far
* We are looking to fill the 100 blocks between now and next Thursday
* You have 15 chances to win
* Any open spots on the grid will be labeled as Manoa PTO and it will be a wash
* Prizes range $50-$250

**Assemblies**:

Kristen Osborne

* PTO provided a Walnut Street Theatre assembly that was completely subsidized
* Play was about a little dinosaur that cheats

**Valentine’s Day Class Parties**

Kristen Osborne

* We are so appreciative of everyone’s flexibility in moving the parties from the Super Bowl Parade date
* I don’t want to take any opportunities away from parents, but i do think we provided the most student and parent involvement by moving it
* All parties went so smoothly this year with the move to no food

**Manoa Madness:**

Liz Meischeid

* Over 120 students registered
* We have 11 teams for 3 on 3 for 4th and 5th graders
* Grades K-3 have 14 teams to do different games throughout the event

**Environmental Club:**

Katie Mummey

* Environmental Committee (Greg Navarro, Jessica Lazarro, Maggie Esteves) met with Ms. Henry and Mrs. Foster to discuss ways Manoa can celebrate Earth Day as a community
* We are working on providing a recycling drive for school and home supplies
* We will be collecting writing utensils including pens, pencils, colored pencils, crayons, markers, and highlighters that are used/broken during the week of April 22
* Hopefully, we will be planting new trees around the playground area; more info to come!

**Harlem Wizards 3/26**

Kristen Osborne

* A worthwhile event for a good cause: The Haverford Scholarship Foundation
* Dr. Adelizzi will be participating

**Blast Fundraising Event:**

Kristen Osborne

* We have a Blast Representative coming to speak at our PTO Meeting
* The Blast provides a safe opportunity for seniors to celebrate post prom, it’s an amazing initiative and they need our help pulling it off
* The Fundraising event will be April 5 at the Yard Pub and will include food and open bar
* The Blast Committee will let anyone from the district go in and see the event set up before the Prom; he will give us the date of that

**Adult Quizzo Night:**

Liz Meischeid

* We are moving along and most of the planning is done
* We have 4 tables left to sell
* We have great donations for raffle baskets including an autographed Brian Dawkins comic collab

**Mustang Mile:**

Erin Canuso

* We are well under way with planning
* It is a 1 mile fun run at Old Manoa and up and down Furlong
* Manoa and Steel are closed so kids can run the race there
* It is coupled with a fundraising push so you can seek donations for participating in the run
* Kids can earn little prizes including a horse head hat
* Registration is free and everyone gets a medal
* Dr. Adleiizzi has offered to be pied in the face by each grade level winner
* Information will go out the week before spring break