

7 February - PTO General meeting

MIMS Cafeteria - Call to order 8:50 am

Agenda

- [Welcome - Nhi](#)
 - Approve minutes as posted:
<http://mimspto.org/files/2020/02/Minutes-Jan-10-PTO-General-meeting.pdf>
 - Answers from last meeting's questions
 - How many votes per family
 - Chinese competitions
 - Parking lot policy update
- [Admin Update - Ying](#)
- [Communications Update - LivingTree & MIMS PTO website](#)
- [Vote on bylaws change](#)
- [CNY Update](#)
- [Fundraising & Spirit night\(s\)](#)
- [Fun Run, Call for volunteers](#)
- [Clubs & Committees](#)
 - Yearbook: Upload photos!
 - Spark Park - Beth Jenkins & Matthew Yang
 - Teacher Appreciation - Jocelyn
- [Upcoming Dates](#)

PTO Minutes

Welcome - Nhi

- Minutes approved as posted:
<http://mimspto.org/files/2020/02/Minutes-Jan-10-PTO-General-meeting.pdf>
- Answers from last meeting's questions
 - How many votes per family: Per the bylaws, each PTO member gets one vote; members are defined as any parent, grandparent, or other person standing in loco parentis
 - Chinese competitions: Confucius Institute hosted last year but isn't this year - we can and want to do a local/campus event; and teachers and parent volunteers are already working on this but format isn't finalized yet - creating a study guide for math and science in Chinese covering all TEKS

Q: What grades?

A: 1-5

- Parking lot policy update (Ying): the drop-off lane is wide enough for two cars, to pass, but DON'T - we've put cones to prevent going around. Admins will be out there.

Q: If the car in front of us hasn't let their kids out yet, but we have, do I pull through?

A: If you haven't passed the crosswalk yet, no, just wait. If you are past the crosswalk, go ahead.

Admin Update - Ying

- Beringer: I've heard that some parents are worried about our spending money on Mr. Beringer. I can't talk about personnel specifics although you can do a public records request on the HISD site. We only have 3 admins this year plus 2 days/week of Beringer - he's crucial to us.
- New staff member Christine Chavez is at the front desk now
- Ms Obando has moved to the library and it has re-opened - we have a working schedule for the library and are expanding hours to MS; Still working on buying Mandarin & English books

Communications Update - Nhi

- We've heard your concerns with so many places and how frustrating our communications have been this year. PTO is working hard on getting LivingTree for you.
- Going forward our official communications will be LivingTree and the MIMS PTO website for all PTO and committee communications
- Thanks to Ms Garcia, Derek, Fernando, and Nikki, inputting information which all has to be done AT school.
- Derek is working to get training done for the teachers and staff and then we can launch.
- Going forward, PTO will not post on the facebook page

Q: Tentative date

A: Goal is next week but don't have date

Q: Still not correcting the problem - we want access to Fb. How about a social media committee that's fair and equitable? We used to have both LivingTree and Fb.

A: Fb is too hard to control. The current Fb doesn't belong to either PTO or the school.

Q: It was always controlled by PTO on behalf of the parents - why isn't it now?

A: School and PTO don't control the current Fb page

Q: I requested multiple times to be added and wasn't accepted.

A: The current moderator/owner of that Fb page has said multiple times she is the sole owner of the page and she doesn't have to add anyone she doesn't want to.

Q: Can you shut down the Fb page?

A: We can't shut down the Fb page because we don't own it.

Vote on bylaws change

Reviewed the bylaw change being made.

Quorum was met with more than 17 PTO members present.

Vote was 20 Yays, 0 Nays, and 1 Abstention

Motion passes.

Updated bylaws: <http://mimspto.org/files/2020/02/MIMS-PTO-BYLAWS-02-07-2020-update.pdf>

CNY & Fundraising Update

Round of applause for Amanda and CNY volunteers

Treasurer update:

- Original budget of how much to raise \$25k
- Raised \$33k
- Spent \$15k
- Net profit \$18k

Spirit night(s)

- Feb. 25 @ Cabo Bob's - 15% back to MIMS; invite family and friends to share

Fun Run, Call for volunteers - Felicia

- Qtego is going to work with us - we'll pay \$300 to turn this on
- We're looking for volunteers to support the Fun Run
- This is a test run - if this works, we'll go back to 1x/year, just running it ourselves - the goal is just to put more \$\$ back to the school
- If you want to volunteer, email vpmiddle@mimspto.org

Clubs & Committees

- Running Club - Christy
 - Started this year and our students have made some huge accomplishments - 2 kids have completed a marathon; 13 kids including several kindergartners completed a half marathon
 - We're at capacity for this year with 40 kids
 - Nhi: we do still have cross country - the 7th graders got first place; we'll also do UIL soccer in the spring

Q: Really like this initiative for students - it's great for the kids

Q: Sports are something we missed out on @MS so these after school activities are HUGE for making friends

A: You can also register kids to play sports at your zoned school

Q: I've heard you can't do that if there's any UIL sports at all?

A: We'll confirm and put the details on PTO site

- Yearbook: Upload photos! Sales are done but we'll have some when we deliver
- Spark Park - Beth Jenkins & Matthew Yang
 - Beth: I said I needed volunteers and Matthew and Christian Tan and Flora Lai volunteered - Thank you!
 - If you have ideas, we need those now so we can close out on the planning. We're meeting with architects and making decisions now - deadline end of Feb.
 - We raised 300K for the park behind you: approx. 100k from parents and 200k from outside the school -- but the ideas for raising that money came from here
 - Excited for phase 2 - phase 1 was about the little kids and phase 2 is about the older kids as well, including a soccer field, a multipurpose stage for festivals, and a track for a 100 yard dash
 - We need parent ambassadors to get feedback from your grades
 - This will also work as a community park - if you know the neighborhood, it helps to get the community engaged
 - Picnic tables, fitness equipment
 - Re shade cover for dragon & phoenix - we've had 2 proposals - but it's hard to do safely since kids can climb up on top and we don't want them to get on top of the cover, so we have to make it VERY high - which we can do but it costs a lot more - architect has gone back to discuss
- Black History Month committee - Amonee, Ms Kirk, Kathy
 - Reading in library 2x/week
 - Finalizing plans for assembly on last day (am for ES, pm for MS)
 - Morning announcements by Student Council
 - Parents, please volunteer to be hands at the assemblies - don't need planning, but could use hands
 - Will also have Harlem Globetrotters here at MIMS - the 1st Chinese player on their team will be there
- Teacher Appreciation - Jocelyn
 - On feb 21 - working with Amonee, Kathy, 4 restaurants, other volunteers
 - After this one, a cookout scheduled for Teacher Appreciation Week
- International Festival
 - working with 1st grade teachers to confirm date
 - Do you want to represent a country? Tell festivals@mimspto.org what country, whether you need a plug, and how many tables you need
 - Also doing Kids' marketplace (Eda Morita is contact) and 1st grade expo

Adjourned 10:05

Upcoming Dates

Subscribe to the MIMS PTO Calendar at mimspto.org.

Sociables are listed on the MIMS PTO Calendar by number - you can still buy sociables on Qtego.com if they are not sold out.

February

8 Feb - UIL; Cub Scout Pack 989 Pinewood Derby

13 Feb - Spring picture day

14 Feb - Early dismissal

21 Feb - Staff appreciation lunch

25-26 Feb - STAAR Benchmark

25 Feb - Spirit Night - Cabo Bob's (1810 Fountain View 77057)

28 Feb - Fú Fri-Yay; Go Texan Day; Black history month assembly

March

2 Mar - PTO Executive Board Meeting

4 Mar - PTO General Meeting 6 pm

16 -20 Mar - Spring Break

30 Mar - Chávez/Huerta Day (holiday)