



MS PTO General Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, September 12, 2017, 10:30am.
Conference Hall**

Attendance: Mr. Jim Slaid, Mr. Eric Majors, Ms. Elethia Rhoden, Mr. Nate Samuelson, Ms. Wendy Moore, Mr. Gary Johnston, Ms. Michelle Quirin, Mr. Dan Choi, MS PTO board members
Total parents attendees: Approximately 60

- I. Principal Slaid's Report
 - a. School update and focus areas
 - i. Sustainable systems - three areas of focus
 1. Climate and culture
 - a. Renovations were done to make a more inviting space. To build and share an understanding, forge friendships, and create an environment to create a more welcoming environment
 2. Communication between school and home
 - a. We will send out text messages, emails, letters, and do everything possible to ensure we can communicate directly with the parents and students.
 - b. If parents are ever in a situation where they feel they need more information – whether information coming from classroom teachers or administrative staff, please let the school know to work on it.
 3. Curriculum and instruction
 - a. Teachers are amazing as to what they do but we want to continue to focus on this and create an environment with high standards.
 - b. All of our departments are working on this to create an environment as to what the teachers and staff can do to create the highest standard.
 - ii. School and non-school trips – aim it to use the professional developmental fund to make the following clubs possible
 1. World scholar's cup club
 2. AMIS trips
 3. OTHER trips
 - iii. Convenience store update

1. MS students are encouraged to eat lunch first before purchasing a snack at the convenience store.
2. IF there are any problems please let the school know to let the staff create a more amicable situation.

iv. SERVICE LEARNING AT KIS

1. Mission is to promote the following
 - a. Gain insights into what service learning truly is
 - b. Examples of curriculum connections
 - c. How to develop service learning relationships that are sustainable
 - d. Service Learning Website:
<https://sites.google.com/a/student.kis.or.kr/korea-international-school-student-service-learning/choose-your-adventure>
 - e. 11 service learning sites are available – you can see them under “choose your adventure”

b. EE Trip Update

- i. 6th Grade Trip (Mr. Slaid) Hanhwa Resort
 1. More valuable because the students are at the start of the middle school and students are encouraged to create friendships
 2. Challenge course – high and low challenges
 - a. Rope course
 - b. Platform jumps
- ii. 7th Grade Trip (Mr. Samuelson) Hongchun River
 1. Kayaked around the river for about 45min - 1hour.
 2. Encouraged them to work as a team
 3. Use skills from their science curriculum to work on experiments that were already done in class as a collaboration with their outdoor experience and work together with students from their advisory
 4. Reflection – came back and sat down to listen to a rich and reflective experience
- iii. 8th Grade Trip (Ms. Moore) Yong-in Recreational Forest
 1. 26 Item list of photo challenges
 2. Zip-lining
 - a. Took data from zip-lining to apply things to velocity, friction, etc.
 3. Arts and craft period

4. Established goals from the day to talk about how they would do things differently from what was already done.
- c. Introduction of MS Administrative Team
 - i. Dr. Elethia Rhoden (counselor)
 - ii. Mr. Eric Majors (associate principal)
 - d. Renovation
 - i. Middle school wasn't as impacted by the renovation
- II. Director (Ms. Michelle Quirin)
- a. Purpose of renovations
 - i. Nature friendly
 1. Increased indoor natural lights
 2. New air ventilation system and more plants to improve air quality
 3. Multi-purpose room
 - a. 32meters long to create an indoor multipurpose system
 - ii. Academically enriched
 1. ES STEM area (ES Bldg 1st floor) – science
 2. HS STEM Area (HS Bldg 2nd floor) – computer, math, robotics
 3. Early childhood Education (PK/JK)
 - a. One more JK class with a new indoor and outdoor play area
 4. Fitness area
 5. Music area
 - iii. Community friendly
 1. More spacious cafeteria area
 2. More multiple meeting areas with A/V system
 3. Convenience store
- III. Learning Through Mistakes presentation by Mr. Jim Slaid
- a. www.teachtought.com
 - i. See mistakes as a source of understanding
 - ii. Improve motivation and self-esteem by responding to and overcoming mistakes
 1. Remind this to your children
 - iii. Honor mistakes a guidance for the teacher, too
 - b. Carol Dweck's "Learning Through Mistakes"
 - i. If you emphasize on intellect or talent, leads to the implication that such traits are innate and fixed, leaves people vulnerable to failure, fearful of challenges and unmotivated to learn
 - ii. Teaching people to have a "growth mind set", encourages a focus on "process" rather than on intelligence or talent and produces high achievers in school and in life



- iii. Parents and teachers can engender a growth mind-set in children by praising them for their persistence or strategies (rather than for their intelligence), by telling success stories that emphasize hard work and love of learning, and by teaching them about the brain as a learning machine

- IV. MS PTO President's Report
 - a. Introduction of Board Members and job descriptions
 - i. Still in need of an IT & website coordinator
 - b. 2017-18 Event Schedule
 - i. 9/16 Girls Soccer Jamboree Host
 - ii. 9/28 Fall Choir Concert
 - iii. 9/29 Songpyun Day
 - iv. 10/12 & 17 Fall Concerts

- V. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Total allocated budget 13,500,000
 - i. MS PTO Management 16%
 - ii. Event 5%
 - iii. MS Event 20%
 - iv. EE Trips and activity support 37%
 - v. Educational support
 - b. Total donation amount 10,180,000 (75.4% of total budget)

- VI. Library Committee Report – 8/22-24 Fall Book Fair
 - a. 20% discount for KIS members
 - b. 10% of the revenue donated from the 'What the Book' to MS PTO – 656,500won
 - c. MS PTO provided lunch coupons for workers at the Book Fair

- VII. Lunch Committee
 - a. Monitoring system
 - i. Monitors are MS parent volunteers in groups of 3
 - ii. Visit once a week to check up on serving conditions and food
 - iii. Conduct a survey on the satisfaction of the lunch items
 - iv. Approximate start will be November
 - b. Objectives
 - i. To secure hygiene and to provide wholesome, well-balanced meals for KIS students and teachers
 - ii. To ensure better service and facilities

- VIII. Jamboree Committee
 - a. Receives support from the PTO
 - b. Inform parents for cancellation or change of schedule



- c. Volunteering opportunity – form must be filled out with personal info

- IX. PTO IT/Web Introduction
 - a. Simply click on MS PTO from the school website or www.kispto.org

- X. REQUEST for volunteers
 - a. Jamboree host
 - b. Songpyeon Day (8 volunteers – 2 from each grade)