

PTA Corporate funding subcommittee meeting

April 13th 2016 20:00-21:30

At Korina's house

Attendees: Korina Gerolazou (Chair), Charly Hudson, Mark Hilton, Simon Craner (Gwyn Jones Business Manager), Vanessa Mulholland.

Objective: To gain greater insight from Simon Craner into the real needs of the school and how the powers of the subcommittee can be best directed to acquire funding for these specific needs via updates on the school garden/ KS2 play areas and talking through other areas of the school's facilities.

Vanessa hands cheque for £865 PTA contribution to the start up.

KS2 IMPROVEMENTS AND GARDEN UPDATE

- Tyre Park will do lottery funding application for a climbing wall for the playground
- Deutsche Bank via East London Business Alliance (ELBA) will volunteer for day to paint wooden playground equipment the fence and paint a mural on the wall nursery school.
- Courtyard garden to go ahead, wildlife area near pond to be opened out and veg plot with world kitchen garden to get established.
- Slope area between KS1 and KS2 may be remodelled
- Not yet funded are the seating arrangements for KS2 play area

Actions:

Simon

- Put together 1 page summary of garden transformation costs to present to PTA for funding request from existing funds. Such as for seating/amphitheatre (£4000) or resurfacing (£1000)
- Look for support from parents, teachers and PTA for volunteer gardening day.
- Develop a program for use of garden for a September start.

IT INFRASTRUCTURE

Mark knows of many organisations that are willing to fund IT, either in infrastructure ([Samsung Digital Classrooms](#)) or education such as teaching children to code ([Google RISE](#)). Other organisations funding IT projects could be [City bridge Trust](#) and [City Corps fund](#). Links to philanthropists may be found at the [London Funders website](#).

- Organisations may lean towards more disadvantaged demographic than Gwyn Jones School.
- However, the mixed demographic of school could be an advantage
- Any request for funding in this area would need to be specific

Simon gave a brief rundown of the current IT situation at the school.

- The school had recently invested in set of laptops and ipads for classes to use and share and this is at this time considered sufficient
- Adequate provision for teacher's laptops
- Up for renewal are desktops in classes. There should be 3 or 4 per class but typically 1 or 2 of those don't work. So 12-18 of these are needed. Desktops cost approximately £320 each.
- Printers needed as many of the classroom printers don't work. About 7 are needed. We could potentially ask parents to donate old unwanted printers.
- School recently invested in 6 goods interactive whiteboards but one more will be needed next year for the additional year 6

Actions:

Mark

- Talk to Mr Omisore who is the school IT teacher (confirmation of this needed. VM)
- Use the school development plan to build a compelling case for IT funding

LIBRARY

Charly and Korina are working on the Clifford Chance (CC) application and think it would be best suited to request funding for a library for the school. Setting up a library is lots of work and would rely heavily on a specific teacher would have to champion the library and be dedicated to setting up a system and organise children volunteers.

- Could be a resource for English as an additional language (EAL)
- Book clubs could be launched off the back a library initiative
- As could Librarian's club which would involve the being children integral in running the library system. School Council could also be involved in its conception

Actions:

Simon

- Identify and approach a specific teacher such as Ms Bazwuye (spelling) who will 'own' the library
- Lobby parents

Korina

- Flesh out CC application form
- Ask CC to access their reading scheme and send someone to read to the children.

PTA MAIN FUND

The subject of the PTA's existing fund was discussed. It was agreed that the present funds should be released and policy should be drafted for all future PTA accounting and spending. Spending policy could include:-

- That the funds must be spent by a certain date every year
- Set level of reserves

- Specified allocation of funds

How to appeal for funding was discuss and a cursory agreement was that small money requests would be asked of the PTA and large requests would be asked of corporate charity-

- Donation requests less than £1000 could asked of the PTA fund.
- Anything funds available to the PTA for release could be allocated via a token system much like the John Lewis cafe scheme where parents, children and teachers vote for suggested allocations and funds divided proportionally to token votes.
- Any requests above £5000 would be geared towards Corporate funding
- www.surveymonkey.com could be employed to solicit preferences for future fundrasing targets. If no clear concurrence is elicited then PTA would decide

Actions:

Vanessa (not confirmed by group)

- Hone in on yearly expenditure and income and calculate levels of reserves needed to facilitate fundraising events and financial commitments
- Draft up a spending policy to be enacted annually within the school year

GOING ON

Simon is looking into setting up a holiday club at the school and will talk about that more in the future