

PSO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 13th, 2024

Meeting Called to Order at 8:08am by Paulina Moreno, US PSO President

I. Attendees

A. PSO Board Members

1. Amy Mackenroth
2. Paulina Moreno
3. Gina Raab
4. Nelly Macias

B. Great Hearts Irving Leadership

1. Charles Brogan
2. Jim McCormick
3. Amber Dyer
4. Keo Strull
5. Sarah Schunk

C. Observers

1. Paloma Sabau Riquer
2. Emily Breinig
3. Heather Hall
4. Erin West
5. Sonja Lange
6. Johanna Rudolph

II. Quorum (51% of Current Board Members) Achieved

III. Discussion of Items from Agenda

- A. Previous PSO Minutes: will be resent via email to Dr. Dyer for final approval and Sarah Schunk will post to the PSO Web page
- B. Treasurer's Report (Amy Mackenroth): The November 2nd. 2024 Used Uniform Sale led by Ivette Molina raised approximately \$3,000. The October Faculty Luncheon monetary donations were down to \$89 and typically are \$300-\$500.
- C. Uniform Sales: Mr. Brogan will consider whether we will sell Lower School girls jumpers again. A modesty issue in the past was that girls were not wearing shorts under their jumpers. Dr. Dyer will speak to Mary Ann O'Conner about if and where PSO can store eight bins of unsold uniforms.
- D. School Directory, Konstella: Emily Breinig will serve as the Manager of our new directory which is a much more robust platform than we have had previously. Consensus is that parents are using Konstella and loving it, minus

the email notifications. PSO has used it to post a calendar of social events and volunteer opportunities i.e. 9th grade luncheon signup.

Dr. Dyer asked that automatic notifications be turned off for Konstella, as families are now receiving multiple notifications per day by email. In 2021, Great Hearts Irving revised its communications plan to make sure families are getting thorough weekly official communications from the Academy. We have directed families to read The Month Ahead for the month's calendar, The Week Ahead for all-in-one weekly school communications, and one-time communications pieces for major events and academic communications. We've also directed attention to the website, which has up-to-date information. It is important that families do not miss important official communications from the Academy because they are receiving so many daily emails from Konstella. Since only 60% of families are registered for Konstella, the school is happy to continue to also communicate important PSO information (events, etc., whatever is needed).

Paulina Moreno and Amy Mackenroth agreed that automatic notifications were supposed to be turned off, and since multiple Konstella invitations have already been sent, PSO will not send our more automated notifications and invitations from Konstella to parents to login to the directory/ download the directory app.

- E. Spirit Shirts: Gina Raab is spearheading the selection and purchasing of spirit shirts for both Lower and Upper School. It would be nice to have the spirit shirts ready for sale by early December/ the Lower School Groundbreaking Ceremony.
- F. Snowflake Fund: A team is in place led by Christina Borders, Reena Patel and Emily Brienig and includes additional volunteers. Goal is to launch by Thanksgiving Break.
- G. Floresco Gala: Will be held on Saturday, April 26th, 2025. Keo Strull will host a parent breakfast on Thursday, November 14, 2024 and which will serve two purposes: 1) to welcome Lower School parents to the Upper School and 2) to talk about volunteer opportunities and Floresco. Paloma Sabu Riquer is a GHI Upper School Mom, graphic designer and volunteer working on a Save-the-Date.
- H. Spirit Nights: The PSO Board each attended one of the two Spirit Nights and walked around and greeted families at their tables, reminding families to tell

their server they were participating in the GHI Spirit Night, etc.. We need a Spirit Night Coordinator and additional volunteers.

- I. Misc: Erin West our Upper School Teacher Luncheon Volunteer Coordinator was introduced. Dr. Dyer mentioned that funding has not increased since 2019 so the PSO Teacher Luncheons are super helpful and appreciated by teachers.

IV. Meeting Adjourned at 9:12am