

PTO / Family Leadership Council Meeting Notes - Monday 10/5 - 6:00 pm

Agenda:

1. **Call to Order 6:06** Present: Maureen Hart, Brin Tucker, Deb Schiller, Liz Adams, Jaci Reynolds, Mark Speno, Kelly Shifflette, Liz Dimick, Maureen Gallagher, Stephanie/Eric Libardoni, Shannon Kelly, Rebecca Stamulis, Dianne Clouet, Sharon Carlton Newton
2. **Principal Update**
 - o **Staff meetings** - focus of staying connected as an educational community running 3 schools simultaneously. Using community-building protocols to start all meetings; this will continue.
 - o Developing different **systems and structures**. Meeting with both remote and hybrid teachers → different systems/structures to be developed and refined. Learning as we go; recognize we may need to change as we learn more. System for Tier 2 interventions to brainstorm academic, social emotion and behavioral supports (committees consistently meeting and providing office hours).
 - o **Committees** are established and beginning to meet. Team norms and routines being developed to ground the work.
 - o **Needs:** more support for remote teachers for more small group instruction / groups with adult support. In-person has been pretty smooth (navigation, mask wearing, greater comfort)
 - o **Ceremony** for Nobel Peace Prize winner (former Green Street student) was held on Friday 10/2.
 - o **Questions:**
 - i. **Academic time frame:** social emotional and time frame for transitioning in new content? → This pivot is happening now and within the next week or two. Starting assessments to collect data as a benchmark.
 - ii. Comment: Parents of remote learning note that the **structure can be challenging**. If remote is not successful, it might not be a reflection of the teacher, but rather a different structure of the home environment. Lots of comments that teachers are doing a great job with remote instruction. Pick up and drop off is going well (staggering drop off is great).
 - iii. **Are kids working on similar standards** whether they are remote or in person? Generally, yes. In-person and remote teachers are meeting to coordinate objectives, collaborate and create curriculum. Some of the delivery models might be different based on the modality, but the general concepts and tools are the same. Wednesday planning times and opportunities for recalibration of pacing are essential.
 - iv. **Parent Forum** with Tracy and Julia for parents to give feedback - **Thursday 10/8 5-6pm** If we move from 2 days to 4 days in person, we will need a solid amount of time to plan for this so we're in a good place to do it well.
3. **Green Street School - Winter Coats Drive and Winter Sports and Snack Ordering**
 - o **Snack items** are now being ordered through Fresh Picks (cafe services) - easy to do, thank you for offers for support. WILL need more support when we get the fresh fruits and vegetables grant. (grant means we have to cut it up at the school → will need a training). Hannaford helps program is also supporting GSS (over \$2,000 donation) toward Healthy Snacks.
 - o **Winter Coat Drive** - had heard that United Way would not be sponsoring Kids in Coats. One idea was that GSS would hold a coat drive. Now: seems it might happen with UWay, but we'd STILL like to support a winter gear drive. Subcommittee to form to do this with Mo, Julia, Tracy, Amy, etc. → reach

out to Mo if you are interested. Mo will send us dates soon. Drop off date around 10/16 and exchange happening (socially distanced, outside) week of 10/23. Suggestions from the group:

- i. Will need big boxes available - Jaci from the co-op?
- ii. Let people know to wash before hand.
- iii. Sign up if you want to shop with Julia or a committee member?
- iv. Future idea...winter gear exchange?
 - o **Winter Sports?** We still have not heard about winter sports at schools. Would any vendors consider any other format? BOC says schools do have priority for the time and equipment. Maybe ask about discounts, vouchers or materials for families to help families do activities on their own. Takeaway: at this point, we cannot commit to a winter sports program for this year. Let's revisit if we can down the road, if there might be alternatives.

4. Diversity/Equity committee update

- o **Hosting first staff meeting** in October: communicating with and discussing the election with elementary aged students. Planned first event (families and staff) - **VT Reads book** is The Hate U Give → inviting staff members and adult family members to read the book and virtual book discussion in November. 10 copies of the book purchased to lend out. Everyone's books will offer 10% discount for GSS folks.

5. Support - how can leadership council support teachers and students

- o Reach out to wish to support teachers. What can LC and PTO do?
- o Opportunity to come together sometime soon - PTO could help to sponsor or help organize?
- o Kids/parents send appreciation letters? Chocolate with message? Pics of remote kids on fb?

6. PTO - school year initiatives and community building - TBD

7. Dianne Raised a Spring Idea - Shiela Humpreys Summer Garden Program "ARt of Human Connection Play Program" - would the school be interested in "enrichment for all" programming (May 2021) to strengthen student/family interest to increase participation next summer? Let's revisit in the spring.