

PTO / Family Leadership Council Meeting Notes - Monday 12/7 - 6:00 pm

Agenda:

I. Call to order -- 6:03 P.M. Present: Maureen Hart, Brin Tucker, Kelly Shifflette, Liz Dimick, Jaci Reynolds, Maureen Gallagher, Deb Schiller, Mark Speno, Shannon Kelly, Dan Healey, Eric Libardoni, Katelyn Barrows, Rebecca Stamulis, Francesca, Matthew Moody

II. Principal's update

- Continuing to support our community:
 - \$1600 spent from Kids in Coats to provide gear for kids and families.
 - Continued collaboration with the food bank. 6th graders are heading up Project Feed the Thousands (great to hear kids on robocalls).
 - Holiday store happening in school with “like new” items or “new” items → kids can shop from donations to give gifts to their families.
- Next week: book talk on “The Hate You Give” via zoom - open to anyone.
- Past several weeks: movement of families in/out of hybrid and remote. Thoughtful transition takes about a week.
- Staff meeting: teams take turns presenting “tools and tricks” for learning environments and community building. Diversity/equity committee will be facilitating a survey for staff to take to help address future topics
- Open document for potential for turning hybrid from 2 days to 4 days -- where staff can share ideas/concerns/questions → this will help drive planning.
- Staff is participating in peer observation cycle to push our teaching practices.
- Huge thank you to daily substitute teachers: Alana Ward, Marianne Rigatti, Mark Derosiers, Deb Cavanaugh. Also thanks to Nurse Julia Duke for orchestrating everything with level headed, great guidance.
- Budget preparation: we are budgeting to maintain the student supports we have in place now for next year, so we can clearly target student need when we are back in person next year. Roof replacement need (capital planning).
- Planning for 2nd Semester: (Discussion from committee captured below).
 - Ensuring communication is clear, simple and transparent to families related to what they are signing up for.
 - Staffing clarifications will be helpful when families will sign up for semester 2. (will kids be switching teachers?). Will be tricky - we will need the numbers in order to make a staffing plan.
 - Will there be a family forum zoom where families can ask questions before making their decision?
 - Hope there can be discussion about what is best for young kids / balanced with any potential staff concerns
 - There will be a full week for families to decide once survey is released. Question: is there info or discussion that will happen during that week to

help families make their decision? Might be nice to have an opportunity for questions to come up.

- Addl. Questions?
 - How old is existing roof? 1996
 - Clarification for S2? A survey will be coming soon asking families to commit to fully remote or 4 day in person for the second semester. Depending on virus levels, we need to be ready to pivot to a different option should need arise. Fully remote for ALL the week of Jan 4th.
 - Was High School COVID exposure the first one we've had in our district? (yes). Families are appreciative of how communication happened last week.
 - When does the next semester start? Weds 1/27/20.

III. Leadership Council Chairperson

- Have not traditionally had this; School Board is now requesting this (periodically meeting of chairs).
- Requirement: represent this collective group (reps from school councils get together and share ideas / resources). Discussion about importance of allowing each leadership council to maintain their own vision that best represents their school.
- Rebecca Stamulis is willing to volunteer for this. Maureen Gallagher can be the backup.
- Discussed making minutes available on the PTO portion of the website as well as linking to this from the school newsletter.
- Jaci will send an email soliciting feedback on how to redesign district/board website.
- Discussed importance of the connection with the school community / school administrator directly (vs being in the umbrella of the district).

IV. Diversity Equity Committee Update

- School based committee meets tomorrow to prepare for staff meeting and school book discussion.
- Thursday, the committee will meet with Mikaela Simms to have regular check-ins regarding the work of the committee.

V. Support

- Huge thank you to the committee for the desserts and treats that were provided for the staff "socially distanced picnic" 11/9.

VI. PTO Issues:

- **Gift Certificate** for book talk funded by the PTO? - PTO gives permission to take funds from the PTO general budget. 3x \$20.
- **Winter Sports** - not formal, just as potential field trip option. (BOC). Committee overall feels we should not pursue winter sports at this time. Important to let staff know this ASAP to communicate to the students. Can people come to the school to work directly with kids as a replacement for winter sports? When people are back, could field trip budget be used to have resources come to the school? Or other opportunity in the spring? (Winter sports budget money from the district or local PTO money to bring folks in?) -- leave open to the teachers?
- Thanks to new parents who are coming. Reminder that this is NOT “the new normal” → we often find a lot of fun and community within this group.