

Next Meeting: TBD (First Monday in September is Labor Day)

PTO / Family Leadership Council Meeting Notes - Monday 8/3 - 6:00 pm

Agenda:

1. Call to Order 6:00

Present: Maureen Gallagher, Brin Tucker, Jaci Reynolds, Chrissy Howe, Rebecca Stamulis, Mark Speno, Liz Adams, Dawn Grobe, Abi Healey, Sharon Carlton-Newton, Andrea Conkling, Mo Hart

2. Principal Update

Physical building updates (since March): repainted all classrooms, updating ventilation system (all rooms currently exceed fresh air standards), school garden is flourishing (come pick!) and Tara will be reaching out for family garden projects. Many trees needed to be taken down around playground, building a new retaining wall by b-ball hoops to gym - gives more space for gardening and outdoor instruction. Trying to maximize outdoor campus as much as possible (outdoor classroom - getting awning to cover; looking into tents to purchase and locations to use).

Lots of prep for in-person experience in the school:

- GSS COVID safety team has been meeting all summer:
- 6' social distancing occupancy standards, which allows for 8-9 kids in a classroom
- Sanitizing stations outdoors and by all classrooms
- Multiple disinfectant foggers (3) and developing routines and schedules for cleaning and disinfecting throughout the day.
- Navigation routes in the building with dedicated stairways for up/down and dedicated entrances and exits per grade level (K will have own space)
- Hoping for staggered start times - depends on bus company and routes - for temperature protocols and health questionnaires as students arrive.

Scheduling: Mark surveyed staff about preferences and needs to offer the various learning models to families. Next step will be to give families more details about what they are signing up for and ask for families to sign up for hybrid or remote by a certain date (waiting for more clarity on district-wide plan). SU survey had about 35% of families choose remote (WSESD was about 25% remote). We can only control Green Street; decisions made at the district level may change some local school planning. Reviewed documents together to solicit LC feedback, which is noted below to update the draft.

Hybrid Student Learning Option Suggestion/Questions:

- Hybrid model → explain more fully the “pod” and same teacher continues to teach same cohort from home.
- Explain it's the same classroom there together, split into two rooms.
- Students will carry chromebooks 1:1 with them every day from home to school.
- How will pickup times work?

- Is ASPIRE happening? (include link to contact state reps for child care suggestions)
- Can we request to be in a different pod than what we're assigned to?

Remote Option:

- Can we change our mind after a month?
- Internet access NOT included - may be provided via CARES or PTO?
- Lunch program clarity from district. Fresh Picks will try to move forward with drop off meal sites. Ali West will be food service coordinator for entire district.
- What does attendance mean? What will be expected?
- Abi asked: if families did not attend in the spring, what will change now to allow them to attend? Parent comfort issues, technology issues, etc.

General Feedback:

- "All of these plans and expectations are subject to changes per other sources of guidance."
- Make sure the FAQ's can have A's as well (even if it's "we are still working on that")
- Need live tech support for families.
- Explain the "pod" piece more.
- There was general parental support of this plan and the document to guide parent decisions.
- Mark is hoping for ability to send the info out before the end of the week.

3. **School Year 20/21 Update and Discussion** (how can LC support our students, teachers and families)

- Discussion:
 - Did other schools also feel confusion after the meeting with superintendent?
 - LC Commended Mark's communication with staff and families
 - Kudos to GSS for the planning process and communication process that have occurred. Community knows that this process is very difficult for all.
 - Have there been questions about how students feel about coming back to school? Suggestion to have a family discussion about making that determination before committing.
 - How will we deal with the counseling needs? Tracy, Erica and Amy will still be doing work with Green Street.
- LC/PTO asked how they can continue to help and support with anything. (morale, sanitizer, etc.). Keep LC and PTO posted!

4. **Equity as a priority in our school return**

- Jaci shared that WSESD Board has asked for Action Plan including ways we will be actively anti-racist as community and individual schools (hiring practices, curriculum, representation on committees) → board will ask for next steps of how to do this. Appoint task force of people at sites? Guidance Document posted on the WSESD website.
- Mark shared that we have 2 GSS Diversity team leaders, Tracy and Shannon K. Developed Diversity/Equity committee over the summer with 5 teacher members and they are developing a GSS multi-year action plan around

goals. Includes parent participation on the committee (let Mark or Shannon Kelly know if you or someone you know wants to be involved). Mark has committed support for these goals. Mark can share draft of the document to this group at future meeting.

- Questions for thought: how do we represent a range of parent perspectives on the challenges students may be facing when returning to school? Abi/Jaci will reach out to Mark/Shannon K for participation. Shared this as an urgent concern.

Mark shared that all are invited to participate in this leadership council.

Andrea suggested we send clear invite for this specific meeting, specifying that we are looking to diversify. Mo will send zoom invite via robo-email for future meetings.

Zoom may provide more equity for participants to join?

Sharon recommended that we create a statement about the action/purpose of the Leadership Council to provide clarity for families? Statement and clear goals. **Who will draft this for review?**

5. New Business - Leadership Council/School Reopening Plans

- Does it make sense to have a call to order 5:30 for Leadership Council business / 6:00 PTO meeting? - consensus is yes, and revisit after a couple months to see if we can keep as the same meeting.
- Helpful to have a mission statement / goal for our GSS Leadership Council? -
- Please have Mo send out a robo email with zoom link for future meetings so families can join (open invite)
- Would be great to have Leadership Council representatives on the GSS Equity committee - will be Abi and Jaci.

6. Spring 2020 Family Survey Results

- Were sent out for review last week. Wide range of responses.

7. PTO School Year Initiatives

- No craft fair / no BINGO for the beginning of the year
- Winter sports - question that will be out there.
- \$ allocation remains for next year.
- Would it make sense to use PTO funds for families to access internet in their homes? Mark suggested to see if this is solved at the state/district level and keep this idea on the table to support. Also under CARES act? Should GSS add internet connectivity/support to school level survey?
- Also 4 Winds \$\$ to use for this year? Online program - science work through this. Check with Rebecca Mayer and Lauren Dumont.
- Anything that can be done for Healthy Snacks? Mark and Mo discussed and will reach out.