

PTO Minutes October 14, 2020
On Google Meet

Attendees: Colleen Barrett, Stacey Wang, Anastasia Maroulis, Lisa Ellison, Bridget Adler, Sabina McGuirl, Jamie Noe, Shveta Dhand, Medy Murphy, Lori Verbel, Mitzi Knapp, Laura Woodland, Lauren Sacks, Karina Behl, Elizabeth Gomez

Meeting Called to Order: 9:20 am

Minutes Approved by: Lauren Sacks and Sabina McGuirl

Treasurer's Report- Bridget Adler: \$18,561.86 in the operating account, \$33,190.55 in Boosterthon Account

Administrative Reports:

Colleen Barrett- PTO Co-President:

- **Introduction of New Board Members-** Welcome to two new VPs Lori Verbel and Shveta Dhand and Secretary Jamie Noe
- **September Events Recap**
 - Class Parent Assignments- Class parents have been assigned. This is an unprecedented year and there are not the normal amount of events.
 - Directory App- The app will launch on 10/15.
 - UNICEF- Usually done while trick or treating, this year will be done virtually. Class parents sent out the information. Organized by Amy Rossi.
- **Fall Fundraisers**
 - Apparel Sale- Sale ended on Friday 10/9. We are happy with the sales and the items will be delivered in the next few weeks.
 - Village Table- Lisa Ellison explained about a new PTO fundraiser. A woman in River Vale set up a system where you can log on and preorder food for delivery. We will be starting with the lunch category with AB&G, Goldbergs, and Village Pizza. There will be 2 windows of time in AM/PM slots and orders will be placed the week before by Saturday at midnight for lunch delivery the following week. We can add more categories (dinner, groceries, etc.).
- **Virtual Book Fair-** This will run from November 7-20

Medy Murphy- Music and Arts: The PTO put together paint packages for students for Mr. Souza.

Anastasia Maroulis- Hillside Principal: Welcome back! We have had a flawless start and everyone is happy. We are using a different model and schedule than before, and we will push as long as we can. The school nurses are working with the Health Department and we are doing

really well. This year there has been a lot of assessing for baseline data using the Star assessment and reading and math assessments to help identify the gaps. The most amount of leveling off was seen at the K & 1 grade levels, but they are all making progress in this short amount of time. The specials teachers travel to the classrooms aside from PE which is done outdoors or in the all-purpose room. Mrs. Vassalo is the new Guidance Counselor at Hillside. The new Hilltop Program at Hillside for special education students is going great and is great for the school and district. Parents from other districts have already reached out.

Since we cannot gather in groups, this year we will have no in-person assemblies and we are looking into virtual assemblies or field trips. There will be a guest author who will visit virtually in January. Peter Brown is best in person and was rescheduled until next September. Medy will look into whether Young Audiences is doing virtual assemblies and will pass on information she finds.

Back to School Night went well and the details for Parent/Teacher conferences are being worked out.

Question asked to Ms. Maroulis- Have you started to look at what Phase 2 will look like for us? They are brainstorming how to ease up and would like to look more at social interactions for students. The board is talking about how to make this happen and Ms. Maroulis is open to suggestions/comments.

About \$1500 of reward money from last year's book fair was given from the PTO to Ms. Bailey to use for items for the Hillside Library. Ms. Maroulis would like to find a way for students to take books out of the library.

For Halloween, our typical parade is too large of a gathering of people. Instead, there is an idea for all students to travel to the all-purpose room one class at a time to either to walk in a parade or sing a song, which will either be recorded or live-streamed for parents. Kids and teachers will wear costumes. There will be a class craft, organized by grade parent to be the same across the grade from Pre-K to 3rd grade, for students to do in-class on 10/30. These will be separated in little Ziploc baggies so no shared items will be used. Ms. Maroulis will let the teachers know to plan for a craft on 10/30. Volunteers from the PTO can come into the school after school on 10/29 to decorate the all-purpose room for Halloween (streamers on doors, decorations on walls). Ms. Maroulis mentioned having some sort of contest to make the day fun for the students- possibly how heavy a pumpkin is and the student who guesses closest wins the pumpkin.

Community Service Projects including the 3rd grade food drive will be talked about at the November PTO meeting. The food drive could be coordinated with Brookside with their food drive. Maybe we could combine with gift drive for the winter holidays. We could collect and donate items to donate or collect money and donate gift cards.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:58am Lauren Sacks and Sabina McGuirl