

## **PTO Minutes March 10, 2021**

### **On Zoom**

**Attendees:** Colleen Barrett, Stacey Wang, Anastasia Maroulis, Michael Barcadepone, Bruce Winkelstein, Lisa Ellison, Bridget Adler, Jamie Noe, Shveta Dhand, Medy Murphy, Lori Verbel, Laura Woodland, Lauren Sacks, Sabina McGuirl, Christina Valdes, Joanne Meyer, Jessica

**Meeting Called to Order:** 9:20 am

**Minutes Approved by:** Lauren Sacks and Shveta Dhand

**Stacey Wang- PTO Co-President:**

### **PTO Updates**

- Treasurer's Report-
  - **Bridget Adler:** \$23,462 in the account, including money for memory books
- Hillside Bingo Night Recap- It was a success, at least 125 users joined- about 2/3 of students participated
- 4th & 5th Grade Game Night Recap- The kids who participated loved it! About 1/3 of students participated
- Greeting Card Sale Recap- we sold over 100 boxes and raised \$1500 for PTO- Thank you Lauren Sacks
- Book Fair- we made \$800 in fall, we will do it again virtually this spring
- Apparel Sale - Hillside/Brookside- we have the look book, can add on items that teachers are interested in, and we will launch after spring break and sale will last for 2 weeks
- Adult Craft Night- bath bomb craft boxes with a virtual social night for parents, has a fundraising component, can also order the boxes to do at home separately
- Memory books- we will be doing them for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, we will reassess for younger grades
- Art tile fundraiser for Hillside- exploring options for this
- Thank you to Allendale parents for trying to get vaccine appointments for teachers

### **Upcoming Events**

- Music and Arts Update-
  - Medy Murphy- Author visits for both schools today, for April Junk Jam collaborates with Earth Day, other ideas are in the works

### **Administrative Reports:**

#### **Michael Barcadepone, Superintendent:**

- Fundraising Idea- for \$150, wine and cheese fundraiser idea- up to 4 people per Zoom session as a social night - will get/send information
- Tons of planning happening- budget planning for next year, will be finalizing this month with a presentation towards the end of April
- We are planning for summer- we lost all Title 1 funding (take the amount of people, and amount of students eligible and if less than 2% we do not get that money- about \$20,000)- in the past, we used the money for the

summer program for students, we are ok for this summer since the money wasn't used last summer. We also provide facilities for ALEOOP. For the students with special needs who have summer programming, all of the Quad came together to teach students with special needs in the summer and we will rotate through the buildings each summer- Allendale will be hosting this summer

- Thank you parents who have found vaccine appointments for staff
- There will be a letter going out tomorrow to set up a Town Hall meeting for next week to explain the transition to the next phase for our district which may be a major transitional shift. We are not looking for hybrid environment. We are looking into options- either to continue what we are doing OR bring everybody back, towards the end of April. We will discuss reasons in the Town Hall meeting. Moving to a half day dismissal is not an option because it would only give us one more hour a day and have the full class (reduces the amount of contact time) with a snack (mask off)- so we will offer the opportunity to go back to school full day- will be a democratic vote with pros and cons to all plans
- No lunch ordering options this year if we transition to full day
- About 85% students are currently coming for live instruction- you cannot compare to other districts unless you know the size of rooms and size of classes that are coming in person

**Anastasia Maroulis- Hillside Principal:**

- Thank you for the Bingo night! It was an exciting night and the kids had a great time. The volume of participants and enthusiasm was amazing- we should do again! We can do it again, even during a normal year!
- Kindergarten registration is going on now- virtually and very efficient
- Preschool- Currently 27 applicants for 10 spots between the 3's and 4's, will go to lottery, opportunity to apply closes next week
- Reminder went out for drop off and pick up procedures for AM cohorts. Regarding the snow and the parking spaces, Dr. B and the staff are aware- they will be removing some snow to free up more parking spaces. We are trying to get a bucket loader from the municipality to help, we budget for snow removal and this year went way above, so taking money from other line items and trying to balance all options
- Thank you PTO for snacks for teachers before holiday break and through the year
- Today is a remote learning day however Hilltop program (4 hours) and preschool (2 hours) students will be in school in person today and going forward for the next 3 virtual days
- Parent Conferences have been cancelled, feel free to reach out to teachers at any time for a meeting
- Mrs. Claus- sock drive in May
- Standardized testing for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is back on- has not been taken away, more information coming on this, nothing before Spring break

- Question about results of testing- 3/5/7<sup>th</sup> graders participate in CogAT, can share with parents if requested- aptitude testing used for identification purposes for gifted and talented programs
- Report cards for 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester will be coming out on March 30

**Bruce Winklestein, Brookside Principal:**

- Thank you for supporting the assemblies- author visit this month, next month connections to the Underground Railroad and are working out the activities
- Looking for a music assembly/option for May
- Field Day in June, unsure of the structure yet
- Anticipate there will be the opportunity at the end of the year to do something as a whole 8<sup>th</sup> grade together outside, unsure of specifics, maybe at Crestwood
- Have not started on graduation yet (3-4 possible models) since the criteria isn't clear of what is possible- will try to announce by April 1<sup>st</sup>, may be delayed this year in announcing to be able to be open to all in-person options
- Scheduling and planning for next year is delayed- usually start talking to kids about this soon, but we don't know yet what's possible to run this year (this year could not run band and chorus)- need a closer idea of what we'll be able to do before we can plan
- Changeover for virtual to in person swap happens on the 23<sup>rd</sup>- got the requests yesterday and will be getting information to parents on the new placement in the next week. If there's another changeover in April, we'll address it then.
- Thank you for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade game night! Usually 50% of the grade, but the kids had a good time

Upcoming Dates

- March 25th - Adult Craft Night
- April 14th - General PTO Meeting

Meeting Adjourned at 9:45am- Sabina McGuirl and Lori Verbel