

## PTO Meeting November 6, 2020

### In attendance:

Erica Beyer, Laura Marshall, Robin Cimprich, Tanith de Boer, Melinda Reynvaan, Jill Phillips, Peter Bang-Knudsen, Gina Stecher, Stuart Williams, Corinne Wolffe, Kate Jaffe, Grace Feldman, Sarah Dunstan, Shaun Baesman, Courtney Childress, Linda Espinosa, Tamzin Boyce.

A. Call to order at 9:05am

### **B. Peter's Report:**

- A. Peter said that he is aware that schooling from home is not working for all families but that some have settled into it and he's heard lots of positive feedback.
- B. The school district is starting to identify kids that are struggling and will possibly be bringing these children back for 2 days a week.
- C. He is working closely with Kitsap Health Department and seeking guidance from them regarding uprise in covid cases, metrics and 2 week average. In early August we were considered to be in the high range with covid cases and at present low. The health director anticipates an increase in cases heading into Thanksgiving.
- D. He said that he believes in-person learning is the best there is for our kids. That at the moment the teachers and staff are doing a fantastic job but nothing beats in person education. Being part of a team is what he wants for our kids.
- E. The reason he hit the pause button and decided to continue online learning is because covid cases are starting to increase. By extending the time at home staff can come up with innovative ideas of how to work around certain activities and provide fun and engaging activities that are prohibited by covid for example singing.
- F. Peter bought up recruitment and that they are looking for substitute teachers.
- G. He will announce next week (1/25) when schools will go back.
- H. He went on to discuss enrolment and the budget – the district is down approximately 204 students this school year because students have left due to covid-related reasons. This is a 2 million dollar loss for the district.
- I. Erica asked if there is any way not to cut jobs. Peter said they are early in this process and will take into account retirement, relocation, resignations etc before they cut any jobs, but bringing these families back that left due to covid would be necessary.
- J. Laura asked about the testing stations on the island – Peter said one had opened up last week and they are already fully booked until November 30<sup>th</sup> but that it is only operational three days a week.

**C. Principal's Report: Melinda and Jill**

- A. Melinda mentioned the email that had been sent around previously with regard to hybrid education and what to expect.
- B. She also said that they were planning an orientation for in-person learning and will provide more details on that at a later date.
- C. Robin asked if PE is better for online or in-person learning with regards to the hybrid model and Melinda said that there are limitations of what can be done during STEM, PE and music and that teachers are working to make these as engaging as possible. Jill said that she is seeing a lot of creativity from teachers and they are using this time to come up with smart and innovative ways to work around the limitations set upon them.
- D. Erica asked if the PTO could continue to work on their fundraising. Melinda said that she had contacted the business department and they stated that non-profits are doing well regardless of covid. She commented that some families may not be in a position to contribute while others may. It isn't a competition to see who can give the most and the message should be pulling together.
- E. Laura pointed out that we should be careful with our words in the fundraising campaign as people are all in different positions financially.
- F. There is a going to be a change in pick up and drop off locations at the school when hybrid learning starts – this is to prevent Madison Avenue from getting backed up and to ensure that the traffic flows continuously at the school. A map will be distributed.
- G. School photos to take place at Woodward with a drive up system. Details to be announced.

**D. Officers Reports:**

**A. President's Report: Erica Beyer & Laura Marshall**

- A. Erica leads the meeting and gives suggestions and answers questions as we go:
- B. Together with Helpline house we are having a "Parade of Condiments" on Friday November 13<sup>th</sup>.
- C. Melinda and Jill are planning a fun commercial to engage everyone.
- D. Tanith to take all goods collected at Ordway to Helpline House.
- E. Laura says we need to start finding 4<sup>th</sup> Grade parent volunteers.

**B. Treasurer's Report – Robin Cimprich**

- A. Robin went through the spenditure for October – total was \$9763.79 which included Assembly for Taproot Theatre, Razkids, Zearn, Staff Grants and also Memory Books.

**C. Secretary – Tanith de Boer**

- A. Tanith to take over yearbooks from Erin Graham. To get information from Sarah regarding children with no consent to be in year book. Also, to look into other yearbook companies.

**D. Vounteer Coordinator – Position not filled.**

- A. Nothing to report.

**E. Enrichment Coordinator – Gina Stecher**

- A. Nothing to report.

**F. Communications Coordinator – Kate Jaffe**

- A. Nothing to report.

**G. Spanish Emersion Representative – Tamzin Boyce**

- A. Grace filled in for Tamzin. Melinda said that reimbursement of the El Velero teachers for additional compensation should not be paid by the PTO but that she would bring this to Peter's attention and deal with it through the school board. Grace mentioned that there are El Velero families who are willing to support this.

**H. Unfinished/ Old Business –**

- A. Nothing as yet.

**I. New Business –**

- A. Sort out yearbooks and get pricing.

**J. Adjournment at 10:57.**

- A. Robin makes a motion to adjourn. Laura seconds the motion. All are in favor.