

McKenny PTO Meeting
Tuesday, October 13, 2020
Over Zoom

Attendance: Michael Havens, *Principal*; Cherie Andreassan, *President*; Mindy Swedberg, *Vice President*; Abby Terpening, *Treasurer*; Ingrid Aries, *Secretary*; Kameron Durocher, *Community Connections Chair and Volunteer Coordinator*; Juliet Kwakye, *Directory Co-Chair*; Juliette Knight, *Directory Co-Chair*; Carrie Andrew, *Parent-at-Large*

Meeting over Zoom convened at 6:35.

Members were asked to leave their name in the chat to help with recording minutes.

Ingrid read the minutes.

*****Motion made, seconded and approved for accepting the meeting minutes as written for September.*****

McKenny Update (Michael Havens):

- A lot of time and energy has been spent on the move (which is now delayed) to hybrid instruction.
 - Many reasons for the delay.
 - The district wanted to make the call today because of the complex nature of bringing people back like this.
 - A lot relate to health and safety, communication, and continuous instruction that needs to be supplied.
 - There is disappointment as there was excitement with students returning to school yet it also makes sense since with a rise in cases in our county the health department would likely ask schools to close after barely opening back up.
 - Some amount of regrouping will happen once the first phase of move to hybrid.
 - This is based on results of the survey looking at interest of Kindergarten families in having their child return to school.

Other updates:

- **The 2nd/3rd grade split was disbanded.** The 3rd graders moved into other 3rd grade classrooms and 2nd graders were pulled from the other two classes to add to Mrs. Frances's 2nd grade class.
 - It simply was not sustainable to teach the 2/3 split plus it would be very complicated with the eventual hybrid model.
- **Distribution** sessions continue to go well.
 - Never a long line
 - Good turnout of people coming
 - Arrangements made for those with whom it is hard

- As part of School Community Connections
 - **Assemblies** are every other Friday, including this Friday.
 - Next life skill: cooperation.
 - Recordings of songs are now available on Mr. Haven's Schoology page. Motions are available as well. He hopes to add stories there as well.
- **Parent Teacher Conferences** week after next. Sign up on Skyward.
 - More of a focus on how things are going academically and what upcoming weeks and months will look like for students.
- Model for **MAP assessment** will look different but will happen in the next few weeks as well.
- **Enrollment:**
 - McKenny continues to enroll a couple kids a week and lose a couple as well. Enrollment has been fairly steady since the beginning of the year.
- **Sad News:** As announced, one of the McKenny preschool students passed away recently and there is much gratitude for the community reaching out and supporting them. The school community is such a great source of support. The child's siblings felt safe and comfortable reaching out to their teachers. We are grateful for the connections made. Our teachers work hard to foster relationships and positive culture where students feel safe. The school continues to support these students and their family.
- **Parent Meetings:** Michael had his first parent meeting with Kindergarten families. There were not very many people there. He will move it to a later 6:30 start time in hopes that more families will come. Next grade levels, 2 grades at a time will start up next week. Kami and/or Ingrid will attend the future ones.

Treasurer Update (Abby):

- Zoom monthly subscription costs \$16 per month
 - The board approved to have a paid zoom account for PTO. The account will be month-to-month.
- \$20 more to Sunshine Fund

Wreaths: The fundraiser is still happening, but not through schools. Typically it is used to help with the cost of Cispus for our 5th graders. Money will go to the Olympia Education Foundation, not tagged for Cispus. They partner with adults with special needs who make the wreaths.

Sunshine Fund Update (Mindy):

We haven't needed to use money from the fund yet. We are using money from the Principal's Emergency Fund for now. We are good on donations of clothing and such.

Foodbank (Mindy):

- The coordinator asked if we would take all Thursday nights per month.
- Another table had to be added because so many families volunteered.
- There are 10-15 people going every Thursday.
- Way to go, McKenny!!!

Hawkwear:

- We have a hawkwear coordinator.
- She is excited about getting stuff made.

Directory:

- Kids will be sorted by grades.
- People may not have realized that they have to sign up again.
- Only 37 kids so far and that includes families with multiple children.
- It would be good to send out a reminder to families to encourage them to sign up.
 - Juliet can create something and Michael will send out something.
 - Also following up with families that have previously signed up and are not right now.

New Business:

- **Box Tops (Carrie):**
 - A lot of people aren't aware of store rewards so it will be helpful to send the sheet with all of those as an attachment.
 - Box tops collections will take place during next supply pickup.
 - Some kind of class reward could be helpful.
 - Carrie will have a box ready for collection
- **Nomination for Kami Durocher for Volunteer Coordinator: ***Motion made, seconded and approved for Kami to be the PTO Board Volunteer Coordinator.*****
- **Community Connections (Kami):**
 - Many events will be planned on the fly and we all felt that those could be planned without need for PTO approval as long as they follow guidelines
 - **Upcoming Events:**
 - *Pumpkin Carving/Decorating Contest (October 25th)*
 - Voting the 26th-20th
 - Prizes for contest winners
 - Trying to get donations of pumpkins
 - Those can be passed out during
 - Perhaps some kind of McKenny time at one of the Pumpkin Patches?
 - This couldn't being promoted by the school or PTO so that we are held liable
 - Zoom is a better for connecting people for sponsored events
 - *Driving Scavenger Hunt for Halloween:*
 - Guided parade that follows a map where people find clues throughout McKenny neighborhoods. Those who complete could have a shout out at the next assembly.
 - Several members already volunteered to host this
 - The heart behind all this is for people to be seen and known.

*****Motion for up to \$120 for fall events, including pumpkins. Made, seconded and approved.*****

- Survey soon for Community Connections.
- It would be great to have an adult representative for each grade.
- *Zoom Talent Show* (Michael and Ingrid): combination of kids, teachers, families, 1-1.5 minute talent showcase. Sign up in advance. Could be live or not.
- **Funding Request for PTO for Mrs. Anderson:**
 - Mobile Whiteboard
 - Michael is going to check if he has something at school with what already exists at school
 - They may come back to us presenting this need
- **Fall Fundraiser:**
 - Ingrid is happy to set up something on 99 Pledges and help with ideas
 - A readathon was suggested
 - November was our target month for having a fundraiser
 - Kami will talk to Marny about it
 - Part of school improvement plan was to diversify the books available in our school library
 - This could be one of the things we are raising money for
 - If anyone has a famous person that would be fun to read with, that would be cool. Let us know if you do!

Meeting adjourned at 8:05.

See everyone again on November 10th at 6:30.