

# McKenny PTO Meeting

## Tuesday, August 18th, 2020

### Over Zoom

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**Attendance:** Michael Havens, *Principal*; Cherie Andreassan, *President*; Mindy Swedberg, *Vice President*; Nancy Hooper, *McKenny Librarian*; Abby Terpening, *Treasurer*; Ingrid Aries, *Secretary*; Kami Durocher; Julie Kwakye; Marny Howell, *Value Village Chair and PTO Website Chair*

Meeting over Zoom convened at 6:30 by Cherie

In the future we will have people sign into the chat box so we have everyone's name. Mindy will set up future zoom meetings so we don't have a time limit.

#### **June Minute Review (Ingrid):**

(No quorum yet so we will vote on both minutes at our September meeting)

#### **McKenny Update from Michael Havens:**

- New Staff Members: Patti Frances is returning (currently scheduled for Kindergarten) and Mindy Swedberg (PE)
- Six McKenny Staff participated in a Racial Equity Team
  - Michael was part of 90-100 in district on this team and part of 125 or so on the Fall Planning Committee
  - 12-15 people served on both teams for equity and the fall planning committee
  - The work they have done with racial equity was important part of the fall planning
  - Many McKenny staff that aren't on the team still wanted the readings and information
  - There is a district initiative for 12-15 hours of training for teachers
    - This will include a 3 hour introduction to racial equity work
    - Michael purchased the book *We Got This* for the leadership team and it will be available for the rest of the staff for continuing this work
- Staff members are expected to go through asynchronous training for this school year. All teachers will be using Schoology so that everyone (K-12) is on the same interface after feedback from parents.
  - It also makes it easier for tech to support everyone.
  - This can be a bit of a difficult transition for Elementary Teachers who are used to Google classroom.
  - It interfaces easily with Skyward.
- Banker Boxes were purchased for each student. These include school supplies, a Bridges [math curriculum] kit, and other curricular materials. Including PTO stuff in here

would be a good way to communicate with families. This is being done districtwide in Elementary Schools.

- Principals are working on having more consistent practice in academic matters across all schools. Elementary principals are committed district wide to consistently use the district curriculum. This will be a change. *PTOs and schools may NOT supplement using things like IXL and mystery science.* While these things are helpful, it is an equity issue because some schools can raise funds for these things and others can't. *If something supports school learning, it should be there for ALL students.* Funding for IEP Program Needs come from the Special Education budget so will not be affected by this.
- There will be welcome back videos coming out on September 4th. Bargaining is still taking place so there aren't specifics yet. It will be specific to McKenny but won't have more or less than any other videos from other Elementary Schools.
- There are lots of specific questions without answers yet. The bargaining process is still taking place and it is important. There is a lot to consider when including the hybrid model, online, and back at school scenarios that are being bargained.
  - Michael will communicate as soon as he can.

**Questions:** *How can the PTO help?*

*Examples of what we can and can't do:*

- PTO can do single events like Pacific Science Center on Wheels, Apple Tree Productions, Field Trips, etc. We will need to look at things through a lens of equity.
- PTO can't fund IXL or these types of programs.
- *Can we pass out something with banker boxes?* Yes, something that could go inside but not something that makes passing out feel like a party.

**Calendar (Cherie):** Meetings will be on the second Tuesday of each month, except September where it would be during the first week of school. The calendar will be based on how things are going and will be fluid. It currently includes the meetings, a couple Value Village drives, and a Spring Fundraiser.

**Questions:** *How involved can PTO be?*

Michael will be at school during regular hours. People can schedule times with Michael to help facilitate people helping students, teachers, and families. No large gatherings, but scheduled things are okay.

*Can we decorate the school before passing things out?*

Michael will check with the district person.

There is a meeting coming up for parent groups to collaborate. Michael has heard there might be an increase in those meetings. Kami would like to attend the next one with Cherie. This would be a great place to ask a lot of our questions.

**\*\*\*Motion made, seconded and approved the current calendar.\*\*\***

## **Budget:**

### *Fundraising:*

- Not relying as much on box tops this year since the change was made to digital. The projected income from store rewards was kept about the same. Budgeted for a \$3000 fundraiser in September. [Note: this number is reduced in later conversation.]
- **\*\*\*Motion made, seconded and approved for no membership fees this year.\*\*\***
- Spring fundraiser: \$3000 could be raised by a carnival or other spring event.
- CFD and donations: \$300
- Value Village drive: \$400

### *Expenses:*

- Back-to-School something - \$250
- Marny updated the form online but will ask about online groups if they had a better way of doing PTO signups/directory
- Julie noticed there are apps and she is willing to look into things with someone else, knowing that things will get much busier once school starts
- There will not be movie nights or Apple Tree Production this year
- Hawk Wear is still in the budget
- We tend to subsidize yearbook costs \$1000, but aren't sure if we will have one. It is still in the budget.
- There won't be any curriculum enrichment anymore (so we can move that money elsewhere)
- No Pacific Science Center on Wheels or plans for field trips
- Do we want to pay for a PO Box? Right now we aren't getting a lot of mail so let's wait. Michael says it's okay to wait.
- *We are reducing our fundraisers (from the proposed budget) for the fall to \$2000 and moving the \$500 (from Curriculum) to School Environment and Teacher Support.*

**\*\*\*Budget with changes approved.\*\*\***

### **Yearbook update:**

- Extra yearbooks will go home in the Banker Boxes to families that haven't received one yet. Sarah Lankford has kept a record of this.
- The yearbook sales rep and accounting department aren't in agreement in what they say. They sent us 26 extra that we were charged for. There was a miscommunication about tax. We have already paid for it but are hoping to recoup some of the money.
- The library needs a yearbook for record keeping.

**Sunshine Fund** information will go out in the first Hawk Talk. Hopefully that amount of money will increase. People can now donate for this and in general online.

If people need papers in the Banker Boxes, those will go home after the start of school. The first week of school will focus on social emotional health, relationships. and rapport. The next week will begin with more academics. We need to have our stuff ready by the week after labor day. We already have McKenny shoelaces and frisbees in the shed that we can use.

Someone can pop in the Staff Meeting on the 8th to talk about funds available to teachers and forms for them to fill out. Ingrid offered to do this.

*Next meeting on the **third Tuesday** of next month on September 15th.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:08