

**McKenny PTO Meeting  
Tuesday, May 10, 2022**



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**Attendance:** Ingrid Aries, *Co-President*; Jessie Moreno-Graham, *Vice President*; Michael Havens, *Principal*; Abby Terpening, *Treasurer*; Whitney Gonzalez; Jacob Damian; Morgan Rydland; Janelle Cromwell; Amanda Villani; Amy Schof; Colette Paulson; Becky Conn; *VIA Zoom:* Tricia Campbell; Mindy Swedberg; Nelly Zapata; Jeff Sodquist; Chris Schof

**Meeting convened at 6:30pm**

**Welcome & Introductions**

**Motion to accept April minutes, seconded, and approved.**

**Update from Superintendent ( Patrick Murphy):**

- Enrollment decreased in the Olympia School District. It is down 7-8% in elementary schools which could possibly be the result of COVID, and parents choosing to keep their children home from school.
- OSD asked Legislature to continue funding at the projective rate even with enrollment being so low. This would keep the current funding and staff to student ratio the same.
- New allocation of funds will allow for more nurses within OSD.
- New positions were also added, such as Social Workers and Family Liaisons, to help with COVID issues and economic crises.
- The prospect of a Balanced Calendar was discussed, and Mr. Murphy stressed the importance of completing the survey that was emailed to families. OSD would appreciate families input on this subject.
- A Balanced Calendar would shorten the summer break and add to the other breaks throughout the school year. North Thurston School District decided not to move forward with a Balanced Calendar school year at this time.
- The school board has committed to an Equity Policy which would help to hold the school district more accountable in terms of equality among students and staff.
- School suspension is down, but 70% of suspensions are students from lower-income families. The Equity Policy hopes to help with this issue.
- OSD also aims to hire and retain a more diverse staff.

**McKenny Update (Michael Havens):**

- Teacher appreciation week was a great success. The staff thanks all the volunteers for making it so special.
- Third grade went on their first field trip since the beginning of the pandemic. They went to Port Blakely tree farm. Fourth and Fifth grade have upcoming field trips planned.
- Thank you to all who participated in the Panoramic Survey. The amount of responses doubled for this survey and the feedback will be used to make enhancements within the school.
- Mindy Swedberg reported on the status of the Traffic Garden. It is on a slight hold until the weather cooperates because the pavement needs to be completely dry for the paint and sealant to adhere correctly. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony once it is completed (hopefully in September).

### **Treasurer's Report**

Abby reported on the PTO budget:

Income – More from store rewards. Sweet Lee's fundraised \$100. Mod Pizza fundraised \$268. Yearbook payments are coming in.

### **Updates**

**Teacher Appreciation week** – Becky Conn reported: all items on the signup were donated and there was more than enough food for the teachers. Each teacher received a gift as well. The teachers were extremely thankful for the donations and volunteers.

**Playground Equipment** – Jessie Moreno-Graham reported: they are getting closer to deciding on the equipment that will go on the playground. There are three district approved vendors from which they are choosing the equipment. There is a significant reduction in cost if we use qualified volunteers to install the new equipment. Projection is this fall to have the new equipment installed.

**Yearbook** – On sale now with 24 already sold. Parents can purchase a yearbook online by using Cheddarup or by paying with cash or check.

**Carnival** - Preparations are underway with Sarah Mollas taking on most of it but volunteers are still needed. Each class or grade will make signs for the games. To cut down on food costs, families are asked to donate items needed by grade level. Tickets are on sale now with early bird specials if purchased by May 18th. Volunteers will be out front during pick-up next week to sell punch cards. Volunteers will start decorating the gymnasium on Friday, May 20th.

### **New Business/Events**

#### **Board Nominations and Voting**

- Ingrid Aries and Carrie Andrew will remain on as Co-presidents
- Vice President: Becky Conn

- Treasurer: Amanda Villani
- Secretary: Janelle Cromwell
- Volunteer Coordinator: Jessie Moreno-Graham
- Parent-at-large: Whitney Gonzalez

The next PTO meeting is Tuesday, June 7, 2022.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:41 pm.**