

Garfield Elementary PTA meeting

October 12, 2020 @ 6:30 -
7:30 pm Via Zoom

Present:

Board: Marianne McIntosh, Kristy Vargas, Kate Jennings, Jen Olson, Emalie Huriaux

Members: Jessica Green, Brendon Chertok, and Megan Moreno

Guests: Jenny Jenkins, Melissa Morrill

Meeting start time: 6:30

Time	Topic	Presenter
6:30 pm	Welcome and introductions	Marianne McIntosh
6:40	Approval of Minutes and financials	Jen Olson /Kate Jennings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Financials and meeting minutes emailed to members. Both should now be available via links on Garfield PTA website.• Financials Summary: Renewed website, had operating expense. No income came in during last month (no fund raisers).<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Marianne reminded that we can designate Garfield PTA through Amazon Prime non-profit donation.○ Insurance due November 18th. Marianne working on this, need 2 signatures on check.• Minutes: Emalie Huriaux motioned to approve, seconded and minutes approved	
6:45	Update signors for bank account	Marianne McIntosh
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When we approved the Board, we did not approve that new Board needed to be signers. To make official – motion needed<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Kate moved to add Marianne McIntosh (President), Jen Olson (Secretary), Emalie Huriaux (Vice President), Kristy Vargus (Treasurer) to be signers on the bank account, seconded by Jenny Jenkins. Motion approved.	
6:50	Membership update	Marianne McIntosh
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 30 total members so far: Now have 26 memberships that have signed up on line, 4 with checks/paperwork.• Brendon willing to include link to PTA membership in next letter.	
6:55	Website update	Kate Jennings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Website up and going. Kate can add page of historic documents.	

- Additional web pages for activities, events, etc.
- Trying to find out how to drive audience to website. No one is actually clicking further than first page.
- May need subcommittee “communications” meeting to talk about how to drive audience to website. Emalie volunteered to participate, re: add apparel on website. Kate asked if other ideas/suggestions on what should be on website.

7:00 **Virtual family nights** (Dance party/Movie) Emalie Huriaux

- Dance party: Jenny/Emalie/Jen connected via text. Maybe use OSD zoom license to accommodate all the participants
 - Set up as zoom meeting vs presentation in order to switch between kids
 - Jenny (and Arron) volunteer to be DJ
 - Announcement at beginning about Garfield PTA –
 - Engage community with bingo or other idea, scavenger hunt, dedications/requests
 - 45-60 minutes
 - First Friday of December?

7:10 **Cookie Dough Fundraiser** - Discuss Marianne McIntosh

- A parent suggested this could still happen this year, however we would need a volunteer to organize.
 - This year, form is emailed, parent prints out form (not electronic) and mails/sends, cookie dough delivered to school and distributed.
 - Could be a challenge if families do not pick up cookie dough
 - Can’t have people in the building, so would all have to be organized outside
 - Also need to consider “reward” for top selling classes, etc.
 - Question: do we have to pay fees? No, but we get 50% of sales.
 - Marianne to find out
 - 1)if there is a minimum amount and
 - 2)online payments and electronic forms/how parents drop off forms.
- Barnes and Noble - can pick 5 days between now and Christmas for online fundraiser. Have used previous year proceeds as gift card for library to purchase books (so wasn’t actually a PTA fundraiser).
 - First choice Thursday-Monday around Thanksgiving
 - Emalie will follow up on this.

7:15

Principal Report

Brendon Chertok

- Young kids who are electing to stay in remote learning will receive additional boxes. We are hoping kids can bring back to school, but understand if not possible.
- Family support fundraising was successful – have food, gas vouchers for families in need. There is a little bit of safety net available – so help get word out.
- Water Bottles: For Hybrid model – looking at safety protocol - how to we make this safe and fun. The YMCA has been using our building and has closed off all drinking fountains, so need other way to keep kids hydrated.
 - Request: could the PTA come up with water bottle / fountain alternative for kids – no decision needed immediately.
 - Could PTA share the cost (Brendon to find out more). Sinks in every room for refills.
- Hybrid model: Friday email from OSD - still okay to pursue hybrid model. Surveying k and pre-k families to see what participation would be like.
 - 40-44 K and fewer preschool families contacted.
 - About 50% Kinder families wanted to remain remote
 - Majority of preschool wanted to remain remote
 - Next step is to determine how many staff are able to come in (no mitigating circumstances that kept them from coming in).
 - Q: does that mean that kids could possibly not have same teacher? –
 - A: yes
 - Q: could parents know which teachers could come in and which couldn't before parents decide if they will do remote or hybrid (don't want to change teachers).
 - A: not possible at this time due to HR issues, but Brendon will bring this up with staff.
 - Q: Can parents reach out directly to teachers to let them know that this would make a difference in
 - A: it should be okay, fair to ask and keep communications open. Teachers may need to know where things stand (risks, safety protocols) which may impact their own unique situation, so may not be able to provide responses.
 - A: don't have conclusive information on protocols yet, hope to have by end of week for preschool and kindergarten. Would hope protocols are consistent between schools.
 - Comment: Hard for parents to commit hybrid or at home now, but don't know protocols yet (class size, etc.)....did appreciate options given on survey.
 - Q: would like to know what the H-Vac capacity - what settings (bring in air from outside?), will windows be open? Fans pointed out? Masks during lunch? – or taking lunch outside?

- A: Air circulation has been priority during meetings. Not known if H-VAC has capacity to bring outside air.
- A: what is known:
 - cleaning protocol to include hand washing, sanitizing, value of cohorts/groups, (limited crossover).
 - Cohorts aiming for 10, could be up to 12
 - Have to be able to stay 6 feet apart, so size may be dependent on classroom size.
 - District will come in each evening and do a disinfectant fogging.
 - Ask families when they bring kids, to bring kids to classroom door. Families will be asked to do attestation online each day of possible symptoms. Staff will be asked to do the same.
 - If families come during the middle of the day, staff will get kids and bring to outside door
 - YCare will still operate, hybrid kids will be kept separate.
- Q: have classrooms considered having room HEPA filters in each classroom. Is this something that fundraising is needed to address. Can we address healthy air through buying external air filters for each classroom – and PTA could help fundraise for that?
- Q: Is there a protocol in place to notify of possible exposure? How is the school district planning on reducing spread if possible exposure
 - A: Following Health Department guidelines for contact tracing.
 - A: Will ask of families – if you have been infected or have been possibly exposed to someone who is infected, we ask families to tell us right away. Then will inform all who could have come in contact as soon as possible (school messenger, call on phone). Will keep names confidential.
- Q: if exposure in cohort, would that group quarantine and go back to remote learning.
 - A: that is the current understanding
- Q: will temperatures be taken?
 - A: if looks to be COVID19 related, will isolate student until families can pick up child. Since coming into flu season, may need to be ambiguity on this – may be seeing symptoms and will address according to public health recommendations.
 - Comment: would be useful if Thurston County Health Department could send what contact tracing is (family friendly communications). Maybe a zoom with OSD families. Are seeing families be reluctant on providing information or willing to participate in case investigations. We need families to trust why they need to provide the requested information. “Cheetahs have to take care of each other”.
- Brendon understands families wanting more information. Board has work session on Wednesday, so hoping for confirmation as soon as

possible for kids if preschool is going to start next week.

- As he finds out information, he will pass it along as soon as possible.

7:25

Teacher Report

Melissa Morrill

- Supply boxes went out – we are seeing the kids using the supplies and packets. We do have Bridges math boxes. Available for grades 1-5 (letter sent out from Brendon). Planning on have remote packets every 2 weeks.
- Thanks for the support from parents for the online classes. Great to see kids navigating online classes.
- Looking at equity in classrooms, materials, choice of lessons. Staff is fired up to work on this. Wish we could work closer with families on this.
- May have different teacher representative for future meetings. Melissa will be substitute for this.
 - Requests that teacher (Staff) report fall earlier in agenda
 - Request to change name: Teacher report to Staff Report
- Request to Staff: remind staff that PTA website is a resource and to check it out.
- Comment to staff: Thank you to all Staff for the work this year. We see you and we appreciate you☺
- Thank you to Emalie and Kate to help with box distribution.

8:09 pm Adjourn