



## Hillcrest Elementary School PTA Meeting Minutes

*Date / Time* 2/10/2021 7:00 PM | *Zoom Meeting called to order by* President Healy at 7:05 PM

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### Principal's Report

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#### Mrs. Rzepka (Principal):

- Holiday Extravaganza was a big hit, trees looked amazing. There was a ton of positive feedback and the community loved it.
- The video made by students and families for the staff was very sweet. Those little things go a long way.
- Conference lunches are always appreciated. Changing it to lunches since teachers are having conferences from home makes it an extra special treat. It is so appreciated.
- Benchmark assessments were done over a three-week period. NWEA Measures of Academic Progress for grades K-6. Grades K-2 took AIMS Web. Some students in grades 3-6 tested for Fluency. At the board meeting there were some questions about what to do with that information.
- There are three tiers of instruction that we look at in District 58. 80% of students should be able to be instructed through Tier 1 instruction. Tier 2 level students are the 16<sup>th</sup>-40<sup>th</sup> percentile, and are students who need another layer of support. These students might not be pulled out or work with someone different but there might be some accommodations made to their programming. Tier 3 level students are the 1-15<sup>th</sup> percentile, 10 % of overall population.
- Mrs. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith and appropriate staff will sit down and look at that data and progress monitoring data (may be weekly, bi-weekly) to see if they are meeting their goal that was set in the fall for their intervention. This is all more difficult this school year.
- Mrs. Rzepka shared a chart with goals for Reading and Math. We are on track to meet the goals for Spring 2021.
- Starting new initiatives for struggling students.
- Curriculum director and instructional coaches coming to observe implementation of new math curriculum next week.
- Book checkout started with 6<sup>th</sup> grade and will continue adding a grade level each week. Mrs. Hesterman is working backward. Kindergarten won't be checking out books at this point. The logistics are more difficult without the parent volunteers here to help.
- Student council elections this week. Tomorrow and Friday Mrs. Prosser will be sharing Student Council speech videos, voting will happen. 19 or 20 students running. Winner will be announced later Friday.
- Three book clubs are running after school: k-2, 3-5 and 6<sup>th</sup> grade clubs.

- Tomorrow first grade on-site students will be putting handprints on the wall that they weren't able to do last year as Kindergarteners. Google form will go out to the remote families so they can participate now or when they feel comfortable. Current Kindergarten students will do it later spring.
- March 1<sup>st</sup> will be school pictures with Lifetouch. A schedule has been made for on-site and remote students, including the students who are from other homeschools. We will have a yearbook but it will not be out at the end of the school year, like normal. Dr. Anderson and Ms. DiPietro will be working in the yearbook and may need parent help. Might look into a different company for next year, as Life touch has made some changes and has not been easy to work with. There will not be class pictures this year.
- 100<sup>th</sup> day of school is coming up in a couple of weeks. We want to make a school-wide celebration. Primary students will be doing activities, but all are encouraged to dress like you are 100 years old. 100 second challenges will happen throughout the day.
- March 1<sup>st</sup> will be the start of the Kids Heart Challenge. Pushed back from usual February time. Focus will be on healthy habits, eating and activity.
- Kindergarten Roundup is on hold for the time being. Looking at late March/April district wide, due to the uncertainty of next year and giving out accurate information and options.
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> is Board of Education meeting where Dr. Russell and Administrative Service team will make recommendation about what the future learning model will look like. No indication of what that might look like at this point. The goal is to add more time.
- At the April Board Meeting, Hillcrest will be spotlight school. Flag Salute will involve our student council. Want to combine us all together and present ourselves as a Hillcrest Family. Thinking of making a video.
- Board members Olczyk and Harris are slated to attend our April 14<sup>th</sup> PTA meeting.
- Anne Healy asked if families are notified if kids are being pulled out, based on Tier 2 or 3. Currently this is happening during asynchronous time, zoom call. Communication would have come from Mrs. LaPointe or Mrs. Herkes. In the past letters have gone home that would say your child is receiving additional support.
- Anna Jackson asked what the status of teachers and vaccines is at this point. Special programs staff has already been offered the vaccine. Teachers- February 20<sup>th</sup> will be able to receive the first does. Does not include bus drivers as they are not district employees.

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## Minutes

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Secretary Erin Cole presented the minutes of the November 11, 2020 meeting. The minutes were approved as presented.

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## Officers' Reports

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### **Treasurer's Report (Presented by Kelly Fallon-Wilson):**

The financial report was presented for the month of November 2020.

- Income received in November: \$552.27
- Expenses paid in November: \$817.59
- Income less expenses in November: -\$265.32
- Checking Account Balance as of November 30, 2020: \$57,664.28

The financial report was presented for the month of December 2020.

- Income received in December: \$115.00
- Expenses paid in December: \$1,375.15
- Income less expenses in December: -\$1,260.15
- Checking Account Balance as of December 31, 2020: \$56,404.13

The financial report was presented for the month of January 2021.

- Income received in January: \$4,798.05
- Expenses paid in January: \$4,017.63
- Income less expenses in January: \$780.42
- Checking Account Balance as of January 31, 2021: \$57,184.55

The treasurer's reports were filed for audit.

- Holiday Lane, proposed budget \$1,000 per year. Motion by Kelly Fallon-Wilson , seconded Jen Haselhorst. Motion carried.
- Mentor/Welcome, now Sunshine Committee, proposed budget \$2,000 Motion by Kelly Fallon-Wilson, seconded by Susie Howe. Motion carried.
- Staff Appreciation, proposed budget \$2,500 motion by Kelly Fallon-Wilson, seconded by Katrina Roeser. Motion carried.
- One Book, One Hillcrest- need \$400 but it can come from Cultural Arts/School Assemblies budget this year.
- Supplies requested by Mrs. Rzepka- she has purchased and we will reimburse her. This was already approved.
- Boy Scouts will repaint map in back of school. They need to purchase paint. Can come from classroom/school improvements. Waiting on more info about that.

#### **President's Report (Anne Healy and Connie Pundmann):**

- Bylaws were updated last year.
- Need nominating committee. Anne Healy and Marie Bucklar volunteered.
- Ways and Means, Social and Marketing all need replacements.
- US Map on playground will be repainted.
- We want to have a time capsule to remember this school year. Thinking of ideas of what to put in. Mrs. Rzepka found a time capsule from 1993. It was in the ceiling of the library. She is waiting to open it until 2023 to have a proper unveiling. Maybe each grade level can put something in it.

#### **VP of Marketing (Anna Jackson):**

- Kate Jungers volunteered to update the website- thank you!
- Fun lunch/pizza- we have all of the money and spreadsheets of which families have what credits. Will reimburse 6<sup>th</sup> grade families and send a request to anyone else who would like to have credits refunded. It can carry over to next year for those who are ok with it. Would have to cut checks to over 200 families, which is why we haven't just refunded all. It could also be donated to Angel Fund, which supports students for all different types of activities. Next month or so information will come out about that.

### **VP of Ways and Means (Susie Howe):**

- Dine out fundraisers- Hone Run Inn sign up deadline is tonight. Trying to support our alumni scholarship. At this point we are at about \$600 back.
- Maybe another in dine out fundraiser in March and later in the spring.
- Game night update: there will be no game night this year. We also won't be doing a Hound Dog Dash either. Would have to be all virtual, and we would have to remove food trucks, etc.. Game night chairs have come up with ideas
- Katie Wojciechowski: we have discussed options to raise spirits, not funds.
  - March 12, tentative date 7-9pm Virtual Game Night. Will see a demo this weekend. About \$30 per computer charge for that event. Will cost \$750 to host. Might earn a little extra as well. Company is great and is family friendly. Zoom platform. Up to 200 computers.
  - In May- Hillcrest Amazing Race. Kind of like scavenger hunt, but at each spot more of a challenge- maybe physical or academic. Maybe 10 stops, utilizing parks and downtown area. Outdoor events. Two start times to spread families out. Got some information from Whittier School, who did something similar. Probably about \$40 per team. Students can form teams of four, for example, if they don't want to be with their families. Provides safe environment outdoors, and not large groups congregating.
  - Also thinking of possibly a virtual dance party. They are in contact with Coach Josh. He did this for El Sierra and it was a huge success. Connie Pundmann suggested that we could have other family members help out at some of the scavenger hunt stops (like grandparents, etc). There was some discussion of logistics for the Amazing Race scavenger hunt.
- Anne Healy spoke about how we have a buffer in the budget so the focus doesn't need to be on fundraising. Also, that something special should happen for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students since they are missing out on Medieval Times and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade breakfast.

### **VP of Programs - Social (Ilana Roth):**

- Variety Show: Still will not be able to have it in person. Annette Ohlsen came up with the idea of Flip Grid variety show. Next year Annette Ohlsen will need someone to work with her next year, as she is aging out
- Jen Haselhorst- Staff Appreciation/Conference Lunches: March 9 & 11 Angelo's and Cedar Grill. Order forms sent out for the teachers. Individually packaged meals with 3 or 4 options for teacher. Trying to keep it to \$250. Need ideas for Teacher Appreciation Week. Ideas for a great addition to the teacher's lounge? Gift cards to raffle off? Maybe get a collection going for the specials teachers.
- Virtual Holiday Shop- Jackie Hake: Holiday shop went well and seemed easy and fun for the kids. Participation was a lot lower than in the past, but expected. \$1,356.28 in sales. Two \$10 coupons were used. Profit was made \$251.26. A better version of the holiday shop is being worked on for next year, just in case.

### **VP of Programs - Academic (Katrina Roeser):**

- Beth Nelson: Two virtual assemblies are in the works. Friday February 26, International Drum and Dance with Chazz and Zoe. Prerecorded show. Looks fun and engaging for the students. \$350. They will send supplementary materials that can be shared with the staff. Friday, April 30, Chris Vallilo and The Roots of Rural Music. Prerecorded assembly. \$500. Looking for feedback as to how to present this- do we choose one time and all students watch at once? Do we plug it in to asynchronous time? Mrs. Rzepka says to wait until after the February 22 board meeting to see what the school days will look like at that point.

- Katrina Roeser: Reflections is all wrapped up. Participants received a gift card to Every Day's a Sundae and a Spirit Stick
- Katrina Roeser: Hillcrest Almuni Scholarship- had to attend Hillcrest for at least three years to be considered for \$1000 scholarship. Spoke with 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers- last year's winner, Therese Malinowski, will record a video since we can't do in-person with her. She can highlight her time at Hillcrest. Teachers will have discussion with students after the video. New application link went live on Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, high school seniors can apply.

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### Unfinished Business

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- There was no Unfinished Business

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### New Business

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- Anne Healy asked when will the Hillcrest playground open back up, and asked if that could that be re-evaluated after trimester ends.

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### Adjournment

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A motion to adjourn was made by Anne Healy at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Erin Cole, Secretary

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Anne Healy/Connie Pundmann, Co-Presidents