

## **June 8, 2020, PTO Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

### **Virtual Meeting via Zoom 6:30 pm**

**Present: Present:** Randi Alberino, Marisa O’Leary, Jen Carbaugh, Sarah Peterson, Isabel Pipolo, Carmen Vargas, Meghan Sheldon-Brungard, Eric Reveda, Vernita L. Mosley, Randy Lichtenwalner, Mia Shervington, Rodney Arthur, Crystal Hernandez, Jamal Lewis, David Mauricio, Kristin Jarvis, Margery Rossi, Heather Amabile, Rebecca Rodriguez, Sandra Walton

#### **Welcome:**

- Thank you to principals from Executive Committee members for trying to create normalcy in our current situation.
- All committee members had an opportunity to give a heart filled and sometimes emotional thank you to each Principal for their hard work and leadership during this time.
- Principals also had an opportunity to thank the PTO for all of our partnerships and support this year.

#### **Meeting Minutes from 5/4/2020:** accepted

#### **President’s Report:**

- Thank you to the Advocacy Committee for the successful online BOE candidate’s forum.
- Thank you to all who volunteered to be on a re-entry committee.
- The PTO will pay the full cost of the 2020 graduating seniors’ photos. Each graduate will get 1 print of their photo.
- A private donor has paid for the supplies to make the balloon displays for the graduation photo backdrops.
- The PTO has organized an “advice for graduates” video collage from our elementary school students. Thank you to Jen Carbaugh for organizing, and Heather Goggins, the Oakeside School Library Media Specialist, for her help with setting up the “PTO Flipgrid Project” link which gave students the ability to record their messages.
- Alma Zucco will be retiring and we would like to show appreciation for her assistance to the PTO over the years. She will be greatly missed in our district.

#### **Treasurer’s Report:**

- We are spending \$2025 on photographers/print for graduates
- Uriah Hill will use their allotment on a gift of 1 book per student and PKMS will use their allotment on an incoming string backpack gift for incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Approximately \$13k will remain in the account for next year.

### **Superintendent's Report:**

- Thank you to the PTO on the feedback of virtual school tours.
- Thank you to volunteers on re-entry committees.
- Returning to school in September may a virtual setting. The District will be prepared and will get teachers ready for synchronous or asynchronous (pre-recorded videos etc.) teaching.
- The decisions regarding graduation were complicated and important work, which included input from the BOE, city, and school representatives. It was agreed that the current plan was the safest and best possible under the current circumstances.
- There will be a parade on June 26<sup>th</sup> for our graduating seniors (time TBA). Dr. Mauricio is asking for volunteers to make signs, banners, and to bring noisemakers to show our support along the parade route for the graduating class. The parade will start out at Woodside and end at the High School.
- We have received the OK for the work to start on Torpy Field. We are hoping for the work to be completed by Homecoming.
- Thank you to the PTO for all of your hard work throughout the year.

**BOE Update:** not present

### **PEF Update:**

- The Judith Johnson Scholarship is being worked on. A new donor will add funds. They are deciding whether to make the scholarship bigger or to create additional scholarships.
- 4 grants are moving into the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the application process. The deadline has been extended. Grants will be given in the fall.

### **Committee Reports:**

- **Advocacy:** The Candidate's Forum received good feedback. The Moderator was very professional. There are concerns about how to advocate in the current situation and the future since we have no idea what that will look like. Margery commented on how well it worked for all stakeholders to have one clear message being put out to the community. Thank you to Maria Olivier-Flores for her valuable voice in the advocacy committee. Erik advised that the committee was starting a partnership with "Peekskill Walks" to work on a safe way for children to walk to school.
- **Class Parents:** The program picked up after Marisa and Dr. Mauricio talked to the teachers. Next year there will be one parent per grade as a liaison to talk to teachers and to gauge interest for next year. The Class Parent program at Uriah Hill will remain unchanged. In other schools, if a parent is interested in being a Class Parent, they can talk to their child's teacher.
- **Communications:** Isabel thanked the committee members, Kristin and Heather, for working so hard this year. Thank you to the students of the Rise program for doing large

copy jobs. We will send a Stop and Shop gift card to them in the fall, as per Dr. Mauricio's suggestion. Thank you to Laura for her help and expertise throughout the year.

- **Enrichment/Events:** Mia advised that the collaboration with Maria and Carmen on Saturday Academy was amazing. This took the pressure of recruiting volunteers off of the committee. The virtual Saturday Academy had 384 logins, which was a success. This shows that the virtual option will be possible in the fall if needed.

**Liaison to Parent, Family & Community Engagement:**

- 300-500 meal kits were given to families in need at food distribution sites.
- There was a wellness meeting on May 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss the resources available in the district.
- There was an end of year meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Over 4k bags of food have been distributed this year.
- There will be a new partner in the district, (914) Cares. They will be distributing diapers to families in need.

**New Business:**

- The STEAM re-entry committee is looking for suggestions from parents and students for things they would like to do/see.
- A question was asked about the school budget and funding. Dr. Mauricio advised that the Governor is still trying to get more funding from the Federal Government for our state. There will be 3 periods before funding is decided.

**Old Business:** none

**Adjournment:** 8:05 pm

Next meeting July 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm on Zoom