



# PTO Meeting

Monday, October 4, 2021

6:00 pm

Zoom meeting

## Agenda

1. Attendance
  - a. Amy Odell, Principal
  - b. Julie Johnston, Chair
  - c. Julie Gladnick, Secretary
  - d. Kelly Dulong, Communications Chair
  - e. Jody Hyde, CSC President, Room Parent Lead
  - f. Carra Morris, 4th grade parent
  - g. Robyn Martin, Staff Appreciation Team Lead
  - h. Mary Parker, CSC President
  - i. Kyle Rose, parent
  - j. Beth Fleming, 1st/4th parent
  - k. Jo Ann Chang, Treasurer
  - l. Peter James, parent
  - m. Kelly Salome, Treasurer
  - n. Jessica Clark, Staff Appreciation Lead
  - o. Michelle MacRone, 2nd/5th parent
  - p. Deborah Hong-4th grade parent
  - q. Becki Herman, 3rd grade mom
  - r. Molly Garg, 4th grade mom
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Principal's Report
  - a. Parent-Teacher conferences this week
  - b. Book Fair coming up!
    - Scholastic offering e-wallet feature for kids to use a digital wallet at school.
  - c. 5th Grade Ballerat 2 day event next week! Day 1 will be at Polaris, Day 2 at Ballerat
  - d. School Pictures 10/21-10/22 with new photographer so pictures can be outside with Bloom!

e. Fall Break 10/15 and 10/18

f. Halloween- parade will be back along with revised holiday plan on 10/29. Details to come! Parties will be activity-focused not food-focused

g. National Assoc Gifted Children conference 11/12/21- 6 staff members will be attending at the Gaylord Rockies in Denver and taking the learning back to Polaris.

h. Read Act Literacy training for primary teachers ECE-3rd and interventionists and special education teachers. CO dept of Ed has developed 6 modules to provide training on the science of reading.

i. 2nd round of WIN time started today. Building out a more robust assessment system has helped inform more needs for both reading and math using some new assessment programs (Automated Math (similar to STAR reading assessment). When a gap is found, we have better assessments to identify where the gap is and how to best support each child.

j. ELD groups are happening with Josh Morgan (English Language Development) and seeing some awesome growth with the students.

k. Operational challenges with guest teacher, meal and milk, transportation, staffing shortages that are affecting instructional progress.

l. Polaris staff is 100% compliant with DPS COVID vaccine guidelines.

m. Electives- CSC landed on doing 2 robust quarters of electives after the winter break and returning to same model as in the past (same number of offerings as in the past for many choices for students, etc).

n. Will be starting sign-ups for parent support at recess when staff coverage is short.

#### 4. CSC Report- Jody/Mary

a. Finalized revised enrollment priorities that takes into account free and reduced lunch blocks to help increase equity within the school beginning with choice in 2022.

b. Decision to hold electives until after winter break.

c. Transportation working group put together 2 years ago will be on hold while DPS is unable to engage with the discussion at the moment. Group will soon meet (TBD) less officially to discuss ideas and plans. District communicated information that they are delaying healthy start times by 1 year to help organize the plan more effectively. (Our bell time will likely stay the same next year, though Amy will continue to advocate for the middle bell time to avoid such late home arrival times in the late afternoon).

#### 5. Treasurer's Report- Kelly/Joanne

- a. Kelly Salome has accepted a position in Cambodia and Joanne will be stepping up to Treasurer role.
- b. Joanne - Annual fund brought in \$1650, Gear \$1400, Grocery \$830, \$3900 for the month, \$8700 YTD.
- c. Very low expenses in September
- d. October- looking like \$4k from donations this month, community dinners about 650, \$1900 from Edukit
  - Expenses, 30k for paras in October, tuition for 6 staff members for Gifted conference
- e. trending better 2021-2022 vs last year.
- g. Joanne Chang to be changed from a signer with limited access to a signer with access on the US Bank account
- h. Julie Gladnick to be added to the US Bank account as a signer with access
- i. Kelly Salome to be removed from the US Bank account

#### 6. New Business

- a. CO Gives Day in December. Starting to think about how to promote and incentivize. Possible t-shirt give away for donors.
- b. Jessica Clark (Robyn Martin)-
  - Staff Spotlight!! First one to come out shortly
  - Pep Squad to celebrate all staff
  - Donations collected for staff meals
  - Big Celebration in May
  - Staff lounge sign up for stocking lounge by each grade donations
  - Thanksgiving baskets for staff members to come! Sign up genius coming in November
  - Teacher Appreciation week in planning
- c. Deborah Hong- fundraising ideas- many great ideas and talking with Kaimee and possibly Robyn and Jessica re staff appreciation support from local restaurants.

#### 7. Adjournment 7:08 pm