

PTO Meeting

Monday, January 13th, 2020

6:00 pm

Polaris Library

Minutes

1. Present

- a. Melanie Chenard- PTO Chair
 - b. Julie Johnston- PTO Chair Elect
 - c. Julie Gladnick- PTO Secretary
 - d. Emily Stone- Parent
 - e. Jocelyn Arnold- Parent
 - f. Mary Parker- Parent
 - g. Sumeet Garg- Parent
 - h. Molly Garg- Parent
 - i. Time Bieschke- PTO Community Chair
 - j. Erin Ulric- Parent
 - k. Karen Goodridge - Parent
 - l. Megan Dineen - 3rd Grade Teacher
 - m. Kris Heilbron - 4th Grade Teacher, PTO Teacher Rep
 - n. Carrie A. Olsen- DPS School Board President and District 3 Rep
 - o. Jessica Sullivan- PTO Assistant Treasurer
 - p. Jenny Cookson - PTO Fundraising
 - q. Michelle MacRone - Parent
 - r. Nina Frant - CSC Chair, Parent
 - s. Christina Vrooman - Parent
 - t. Chris Meade- Parent
 - u. Kelly Salome - Parent
 - v. Jennifer Knowles - Parent
 - w. Lynne Ly - Parent
 - x. Kimberly Soultis - Electives Coordinator, parent
 - y. Melanie Lundeen - Room Parent Lead
 - z. Amy Johnson - 4th Grade Literacy Teacher
 - aa. Jennifer Bacon - DPS Board Representative District 4
 - bb. Diana Horowitz - Parent
 - cc. Christine Mueller - Parent
 - dd. Beth Fleming - Auction Chair
 - ee. Carra Morris - Community Co-Chair
 - ff. Olanrewaju Lanre-Ahmed - Parent
2. Call to order, introductions, review of agenda
 3. December Minutes Approved- Julie to send to remaining board members
 4. Special Topic: Polaris Transportation 2020-2021 school year

- a. Special Guests, Dr Carrie Olsen, DPS Board of Education President and District 3 Representative. Jennifer Bacon, DPS School Board District 4 Representative
- b. Julie Gladnick- welcome/recap of concerns/fears/questions
- c. Mary Parker - our community is in crisis with the fear and surprise re: the changes. Will this undermine HGT education? Is DPS phasing out Polaris? We feel blindsided with how we were presented with these changes, especially with Choice on the horizon. Director of transportation talked to ELA and FRL not being serviced by transportation. Please give us the chance to identify any areas we aren't meeting. This school gives our children an opportunity to shine. Who is accountable for these solutions? How do we make change?
- d. Nicole G- Is there or will there be consideration for an elementary shuttle and upper school shuttle? Will there be parking at these locations? What happens when the shuttle is full?
- e. Jocelyn Arnold- Accessibility. What do the parents do that cannot get their child to school, or a shuttle?
- f. Lynne Linh- per another family- "I need transportation to get my child to school as a single parent."
- g. What are the assumptions made about this decision? Have you been a part of those conversations? Is it because these already is seen as a school of privilege? We feel like you are taking away options when you are a district that is trying to say you will support each child?
- h. Jennifer Knowles- Live in Stapleton, with a 3rd grader and a rising 1st grader. We simply cannot get our child to school without busing. We will bring our children to the board meeting to speak to why he may have to lose his school because he will not be able to get to it. Can we grandfather in the children that have busing? Over time we can work together to come up with a solution, we just can't do that over night. Who else should we be including in the conversation?
- i. Kelly Salome- transportation and diversity are aligned. Enrollment numbers have gone up with universal screening. Also increase in FRL and ELA. Looked at who enrolls in Polaris and how that has changed. 41 families to 65 in a few years of minority %, geographic diversity, FRL, ELA have all increased, don't pull the transportation! Can this be a catalyst for reconsidering how transportation can continue to help diversity.
- j. Amy Johnson- talked to students in different demographic that were identified that could not get to our school. They would have represented a more diverse Denver/school.
- k. Meg Dineen- kids that are HGT that do not have the right support often get labeled as 'behavioral'.
- l. Kris Heilbron- added on that she's worried that if there's not transportation the students that need to be here will leave. They succeed here because we get them.
- m. Kimberly Soult- emphasizing ripple effect. Will effect Denver schools as a whole. Has that been thought about? These kids are neurodiverse and special needs.

- n. Jocelyn- we have forfeited our spots.
- o. Tim B- Where are we at and where can we get to?
- p. What can we do?
- q. Sumeet G- Timing poor, Success Express not practical for many families.
- r. Emily spoke to frustration and flippancy of communication.
- s. Are other schools losing buses? How was Polaris chosen?
- t. AMY responded-
 - i. Thank you and gratitude for the passion and understanding different perspectives. We are really grateful for our partnerships with Carrie and Jennifer and for their presence tonight. A few things happening in terms of needing some answers and collaboration with regards to the immediacy of choice and enrollment. Is this the start of something bigger. What does this mean for the future of HGT support in our district and what are our leaders' beliefs?
- u. Carrie Olsen-
 - i. THERE IS NO PLAN TO CLOSE POLARIS. She and Jennifer will be there and are listening. We'd love to have more discussions with the whole board and Susana. We represent you. This was news to Carrie, as well. We should be coming to you to let you know about the shortage and how to discuss a solution. You're the expert of your lives. We would like to have further communication.
 - ii. Board@dpsk12.org- EMAIL ALL OF THE BOARD. The 7 of us supervise Susana.
 - iii. Can we veto this? Yes, the board is the ultimate decision maker and we can go to Susana and ask if this aligns with the needs of these students.
 - iv. My will would be for DPS to come speak to the Polaris community. (Amy is actively working on finding that time for the meeting). (A morning and an evening session to give families multiple options.)
 - v. Reassure your children that people are listening.
- v. Jennifer Bacon-
 - i. A lot of families between Park Hill and Stapleton represented between Jennifer and Carrie.
 - ii. There is an actual huge driver shortage. The vision is how to make this district run efficiently. Jennifer represents the Success Express. We want to hear your willingness to have those conversations.
 - iii. We have to fundamentally figure this out. What do we need to do on efficiency. How do we figure out how to get opportunities across the city. We have to think about this and the shortage over the years.
 - iv. Buses are not arriving on time.
 - v. How do we use our dollars?
 - vi. There are other ways for us to figure this out. As Denver grew, the numbers of schools grew. Lots of small schools and lots of different start times. The system we have created comes with inefficiencies and it is our

role to solve them. We want to be better in tune with the experience of Denver schools.

- vii. Grandfathering and elementary success express are things that need to be discussed.
- viii. This is not AN ASSESSMENT OF THE VALUE OF THE SCHOOL. How do we match what we have vs priorities.
- ix. Who do you talk to? US, the Superintending, Mark Farrandino. But our role is to be your advocate. Please email BOARD and Superintendent.
- x. I want to bring you all together to talk about impact brainstorm.
- xi. We can fill out exception forms. (especially 504s and IEPs). They can fill those buses. Tries to prioritize efficiency to the route.

5. Principal's Report - Amy

- a. Amy spoke to transportation changes coinciding with choice and all efforts going toward that conversation. HAVe a lot of interest in tours from prospective families. Have developed new marketing material to showcase ourselves a little differently.
- b. Attending enrollment expos and solidifying CMAS plans.
- c. After break, literacy teachers engaged in next step of Write from the Beginning and Thinking Maps training. Science team is learning more about Amplify Science and trainings to be ongoing.
- d. Launched into budget season.

6. Teacher Report

7. Treasurer Report- Jessica (see attached Report)

- a. Monthly Financials- 9k short of annual fund. (really due to lower donations on CO Gives Day)
- b. Other - we are missing a lot of big gives from prior years. Only 11 monthly give families, and only 35 donated on CO Gives Day
- c. Motion approved to schedule another meeting solely re: fundraising and budgeting before next Board meeting.

8. Committee Reports:

- a. Fundraising- we are doing really poorly in fundraising right now.
 - i. Annual Fund - Jogathon did great, CO Gives Day was very low.
 - ii. Auction- Beth
 - 1. Auctioner is donating her time! We can cover her flight.
 - 2. Perhaps shooting goal at 50 or 60k
 - iii. Corporate Sponsorship
- b. Community - Tim
 - i. Dine & Donate - looking for regional volunteers to book restaurant nights
 - ii. Talent Night - need volunteers
 - iii. Gear-
 - 1. Will check with Kara C re new gear
 - 2. Get Shopify link on site
 - iv. Other-
 - 1. Stay and plays

2. Grade-level playdates
 3. Night of the Nobles 3/3 (Meg Dineen) Kids picked notables today.
 - c. Communications - Nicole
 - i. Yearbook Communication coming out!
 - ii. Night on the Nobles 3/3 will get on the calendar
9. Chair Report
 - a. Funding Requests- Melanie revisited conversation about equipment for Board to vote on. (See attached PTO Funding Requests) Board approved
10. Adjournment - 8:07 pm

Polaris PTO, Inc.
Statement of Operations
December 2019 Report
Fiscal Year 2020

	<u>Month Ending</u>	<u>6 Months Ended DEC 31</u>		<u>Approved Budget</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	
	<u>12-31-2019</u>	<u>FY 2019</u>	<u>FY 2020</u>	<u>FY 2020</u>	<u>FY 2019</u>	<u>Comments FY 2020</u>
INCOME						
Annual Fund	\$ 11,712.87	\$ 32,621.00	\$ 23,906.86	\$50,000.00	\$47,107.91	Community First + ACH + Benevity Fund
Jog-A-Thon (net)	\$ 40.00	\$ 33,504.00	\$ 33,317.67	\$32,000.00	\$33,504.28	
The Auction (net)		\$ 305.00	\$ (2,108.35)	\$35,000.00	\$41,165.00	Printing of flyers volunteers
Talent Night (net)		\$ -	\$ -	-	\$102.00	
Grocery Cards (net)		\$ (1,407.00)	\$ 1,539.69	\$3,000.00	\$2,806.00	
Community Dinners	\$ 56.11	\$ 447.00	\$ 56.11	\$2,000.00	\$2,805.88	
Edukit		\$ 2,176.00	\$ 1,576.58	\$2,000.00	\$1,889.15	
Interest	\$ 17.08	\$ 98.00	\$ 105.58	\$200.00	\$189.36	
Yearbook(net)	\$ (98.74)	\$ -	\$ (98.74)	\$3,000.00	\$7,057.59	
Gear/T-Shirts (net)	\$ 360.62	\$ 2,156.00	\$ 712.04	\$700.00	\$653.57	Shopify Deposit
Misc		\$ 171.00	\$ 178.72	\$700.00	\$892.00	Amazon Credit
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 12,087.94	\$ 70,071.00	\$ 59,186.16	\$128,600.00	\$138,172.74	
EXPENSES						
Paraprofessionals		\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	
Electives	\$ 376.37	\$ 3,020.00	\$ 1,485.45	\$9,000.00	\$6,987.00	
Elective Coordinator		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$8,000.00	
Equipment Support		\$ 78.00	\$ -	\$3,000.00	-	
STEAM/Arts & Science	\$ 1,066.98	\$ 4,373.00	\$ 2,474.93	\$10,000.00	\$9,536.00	
Staff/Volunteer Gifts	\$ 21.00	\$ 368.00	\$ 521.11	\$1,000.00	\$1,073.00	Holiday Cards for Staff
Bank & Processing Fees	\$ 31.68	\$ 996.00	\$ 280.27	\$1,500.00	\$1,155.00	New Checks
PTO Childcare/Meetings		\$ 120.00	\$ 60.00	\$300.00	\$621.00	
PTO Events		\$ 75.00	\$ 245.00	\$500.00	-	
PTO Marketing	\$ 6.84	\$ 24.00	\$ 6.84	\$200.00	-	Printing (PTO Marketing)
Principal Events		\$ -	\$ -	\$500.00	-	
Music/Band		\$ 717.00	\$ 198.00	\$500.00	\$569.00	
Library/Bookies		\$ -	\$ -	\$500.00	\$292.00	
PE/Gym		\$ 443.00	\$ -	\$500.00	\$380.00	
Art		\$ 202.00	\$ 292.50	\$500.00	-	
Directory Ads		\$ 398.00	\$ 398.00	\$400.00	\$398.00	
Other		\$ 48.00	\$ 332.36	\$200.00	\$172.00	
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 1,502.87	\$ 42,862.00	\$ 39,294.46	\$128,600.00	\$119,384.00	
NET INCOME (LOSS)		\$ 27,209.00	\$ 19,891.70	\$-	\$12,352.63	
BEGINNING NET WORTH	\$ 234,781.13					
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 10,585.07					
Other Changes	\$ 87.12					
ENDING NET WORTH	\$ 245,453.32					
COMPONENTS OF BEGINNING NET WORTH		Components of Ending Net Worth				
Operating Cash	\$ 33,375.79	\$ 43,943.78				
Money Market Account	\$ 201,105.34	\$ 201,122.42				
Petty Cash	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00				
PayPal	\$ -	\$ 87.12				
Total	\$ 234,781.13	\$ 245,453.32		\$ -		
LESS: PTO Designation of the Above Net Worth						
Current Year Contractual DP	\$ (90,000.00)			Three installments \$30k		
Current Year Electives	\$ (19,000.00)			\$10k coordinator + \$9k resources		
STEAM	\$ (10,000.00)					
2019-2020 Contractual DPS	-					
2019-2020 Electives Commit	-					
Emergency operating reserve	\$ 115,781.13					