

Meeting Minutes- Nitrauer PTO

Date: Tuesday 11.17.20 Third PTO meeting of the school year

Location: Virtual ZOOM conference per “CDC guidelines” of no more than 25 people per gathering indoors (in lieu of Nitrauer Elementary’s teacher’s lounge)

Meeting called to order by: President, Maggie Foley

Time Commenced: 7:00 pm (Adjourned 7:45pm)

Attendance: (13)

Maggie Foley (President)

Wendy Hancock (Principal)

Jessica Whitley (E-Blast Manager, Webmaster, and Member-at-Large)

Angie Salabasky (Volunteer Coordinator)

Jessica Dolphin (Secretary)

Kim Banzhof (Teacher representative)

Stephanie Ruth (SLAC Rep)

Nancy Izquieta (SLAC Rep)

Jenine Nicholas (SLAC Rep)

Alex Massie (Treasurer)

Christine Hofmann

Emily Goodhart

Diana Hannah

President Report:

Maggie Foley- Opened meeting. Introductions exchanged. No new reports.

Treasurer Report:

Alex Massie- No changes in budget. Also noted that the Savings account had not been reconciled since 2012. Maggie and Alex will meet to discuss the discrepancies. Update for Spirit Wear: Sold 113 items (40 of which were long sleeved t-shirts), generating a profit of \$144.

Principal Report:

Dr. Wendy Hancock- Snack collections for teacher appreciation were a huge hit. A large box was placed outside the office for snack drop off and a continuous flow of snacks with good variety was donated. The

snacks were appreciated and went a long way. Parent/teacher conferences are next week. This week's handout of supplies and IPADS (due to the increase in remote learners/ moving to red zone) went well, 317 of 320 supply packages (for face-to-face learners) were picked up from the school. Remote teachers were extremely helpful in the face-to-face teachers' transition this week.

Teacher Representative Report:

Kim Banzhof- Thank you for the snacks- especially dark chocolate! The days have been long, but everyone is holding up. Parents have been flexible with the changes in routine and with finding childcare.

SLAC Reports:

Jenine Nicholas – There is a pause for strategic planning. After the holidays, Dr Felty will gauge interest for the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion committee. The District grew more this year than in the past 30 years. Three major areas of focus now are: 1. Relationships between staff and students. 2. Mental health of students, teachers, and administrators. 3. Teaching students to talk about and be aware of their mental health. There is a board meeting this Thursday November 19th to vote on a proposal. FID (Flexible Instruction Days) were approved for emergency use with 24 hour notice. It is unclear yet if FID can be used for a single school at a time. It is also unclear if FID will continue to include extracurricular activities. General feeling of the SLAC meeting was that the schools are safe places.

Stephanie Ruth – Current discussions regarding: 1. The health and safety restrictions for recess vs. the allowances made for team sports. The extent of the contact tracing required is a consideration. 2. Standardizing masks- should individual schools enforce proper type and proper use?

Nancy Izquieta- Re: The mental health and wellness of the students: The district screens 9th graders through a specific program and encourages the students to reach out for help when they need it. The focus seems to be on the older grades, but grades k-6 may not recognize feelings or have the language to verbalize they need help. There are concerns regarding uniformity in the district on: what kind of counseling lessons are happening virtually? If all students stay remote, will counseling lessons happen for newly remote students? During quarantine and shutdowns, are students being made aware of how to reach counselors? What are simple easy ways or cues to ask for help?

Dr Hancock – When adults need to quarantine, significant staffing shortages stress safety issues of recombining and reorganizing adults and children. Families chose face to face learning, which has many moving parts and raises questions with no one right answer. District is following the Health and Safety Plan and is looking at each school's data to make decisions.

New Business:

Jenine Nicholas – Considering ways of appreciation for Dr Felty: Group thank you via zoom? Flowers? Shoes? Chips?

Maggie Foley- Opportunities for Staff Spotlights – highlighting favorite memories, etc. of staff. Contact Maggie Foley for information, if interested.

Other Announcements:

Possible virtual bingo?

Dr Hancock would like to extend a thank you to all parents for their flexibility and support.

Next PTO meeting is January 19th at 7pm