

AGENDA (10-6-2021)

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting "Ground Rules"

- Use respectful words and tone
- Please mute yourself when not speaking
- Attendees are encouraged to go on video if desired.
- Please provide your name and email in the chat for attendance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, from June 1, 2021

Discussed verbally meeting minutes but the digital copy was not reviewed.

OFFICER REPORTS

President, Jennifer Politsch

Provided update on board meetings in the summer to align on 2021-22 goals, meeting with school administration as new board, supported the ice cream social (much smaller event than previously), and Jennifer put in a lot of work to update the website for 2021-22 PTO board meetings monthly and next general meeting will be January. Found that 2 meeting invites for PTO general meeting were created and next time the meeting will be via PTO account which will allow for it to run longer than 40 Minutes.

Vice-President, Rajesh Botla

Implementing an audit of finances and completing CT12 non-profit form.

Treasurer, Saadia Loreth

Provided an update on converting PTO to a more digital banking environment and also for providing email donation receipts to increase efficiency while still maintaining all the records necessary.

Reviewed 2021-22 Budget proposal. Voted on accepting this budget (Saadia motioned and Hui seconded it for approval).

Secretary, Flori Perjeru (not in attendance due to zoom meeting mixup)

Volunteer Coordinator, Atsuko Hiramatsu

Documented that all volunteers require a vaccination card uploaded by Oct. 18th. The process is going very slowly and hers has been loaded for a month without formal approval. International school bike, walk, roll - Successful with about 10-12 kids from the designated walking school bus spot (pictures on Instagram and facebook)

Member at Large, Hui Du

Intro - 2nd year in PTO

Assisting in different activities as needed. Helped support a teacher's appreciation before school started and saw that this was a very successful event.

Social Media Coordinator, Sarah Beachy

Intro as a parent of a 6th grader, parent of a Sato student and previously helped start Sato PTO. Using Instagram, Facebook and others to get people connected as a community. Also want to use our platforms to help get out school related activities and announcements like picture day to help keep community as well informed as possible. Plans to work with Stoller staff including Principal Galvan, Cristina, and Rick Bush.

Encourages all people to like Stoller PTO Facebook and Instagram as we only have a few hundred people following these platforms. Please spread the word around

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Art Literacy

(Committee chairs could not attend but all activities are currently on hold pending volunteers being allowed in the school). In person training will be held if this becomes an option later in the school year.

Staff Appreciation

Shared pictures from pre-service breakfast and lunch for teachers/staff. Great effort by all who supported this event.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/12B06Ec_KWdCiMwp-V5oAADI9xIFTUyc_/edit?usp=sharing&oid=108923436610332432044&rtpof=true&sd=true

Next event: Boo Breakfast on 10/29/2021, TBD

Clothes Closet

(now called Clothes for Kids and is managed through a central schedule via Better Impact by Johanna ShROUT at the BSD level. No need for chair to organize volunteers for day we volunteered)

Box Tops

(removing this as formal committee as this has moved to digital platform)

8th Grade Send Off Committee Report (Not a PTO sponsored event)

Committee confirmed with Veronica that they can move forward and ask for a \$45 donation from 8th grade families for the celebration. Looking forward to setting a date with KingPins for the venue. Will need to request a downpayment to get the date set. Tentatively seeking 6/15/22. Communication to go out to families this week in the Weekly, and hopefully an email to all 8th grade families to follow.

50 for 50 FUNDRAISER

Brief update given by Jennifer. This was kicked off at the beginning of the school year at Ice Cream Social but due to schedule conflicts was not formally sent out to the school-wide community until the end of September. "Deadline" extended to October 30 to help us reach our fundraising goal of \$50K if every student donated \$50. This format of fundraising was decided by the board as one that could be easily implemented at the beginning of school given the uncertainty of what would be allowed by Covid protocols. Jennifer requested any parents with interest to contact her about ideas for simple prizes or other ideas to make this more exciting to all.

Not given in the meeting but current fundraising status at time of meeting was about \$3500 with estimated matching donations.

PRINCIPAL REPORT, [Veronica Galvan](#)

- Focus has been on getting the classrooms and space ready for the kids.
- Quarantine topic - it is happening throughout the district. We are following the guidelines by the district. Inquiries have been made as to whether we are having outbreaks at Stoller but that isn't the case. They are following the protocols of contact tracing and it impacts lots of kids.
- Thank you to the PTO and parents for the support of the staff. There is a lot of focus on the kids but these are difficult times for everyone. On the item of Boo Breakfast and not having "qualified volunteers with Covid Vaccine card approved", Veronica requested a short-list of volunteers to push to district for approval to enable this event being able to occur. This is one that has been occurring for years (preceeding Veronica) and everyone really looks forward to it.
- Pickup of students has been hectic with lots of traffic and delays at the front of the school. Because of this many people are now using the area in the back of Stoller school by Jacob Wismer for after school pickups. This area has no traffic supervision and is resulting in a huge safety risk. Traffic is moving very fast here and guidance has already been given to not use this as a pickup location. Information will be going out on this topic to remind everyone on this topic. During the meeting a comment in Chat highlighted that the exit area into the neighborhood near basketball courts is also congested. Comment on this one was that was not as fast of a street for traffic but concern was noted.
- Conference/Family check-in - Every student will have this online meeting only with the advisory teacher (unless a specific request for conference with teachers is sent directly to students identified as needing one). Info is coming out Thursday/Friday on this topic

- Teacher Spot-light on students exhibiting exceptional behavior -Teachers/staff are nominating students weekly and displayed for all to see. Those students identified will go into a raffle for some small prize or recognition. Inquiry by Veronica if the PTO can help sponsor some of these prizes or get donations from community sponsors. PTO board will review in the next general meeting this request.
Request by Jennifer to Veronica that we get some pictures of these Spotlights to post on our social media (and Principal Galvan agreed to provide those).

Q/A from the audience (via chat window primarily)

1. Question on will the students be able to use Lockers due to heavy loads being carried around all day - Veronica - It is a conversation across all middle school administrations and is a concern across all. Use of lockers slows down traffic in the halls and kids quickly gather together even with many reminders to socially distance. Covid trends are going down but we want to keep it in that direction
2. Question on size of 8th grade classes/band/choir/PE - 8th grade is largest class sizes for any grade level and partly due to the legacy of kids allowed to stay at Stoller vs going to a new middle school based on boundaries. Veronica has had district personnel walk the building to see the distancing and class sizes and they are meeting the requirements. Encore classes are normally large but all meet in large room or in rooms that have been opened (double classrooms used for one)
3. Covid testing question on who can get access once they open up testing for elementary students/ can 6th graders who are unvaccinated get access - Veronica advised that we all watch the district website as this is where the most up to date info is posted. They will be following any guidelines published by BSD
4. Will there be field trips? Waiting and seeing for this and for what will occur for outdoor school.. Still find it hard to believe that 2 years ago 6th grade outdoor school was last cohort to even partially complete traditional outdoor school
5. Question on amount of options/food available for lunch (specifically called out 8th grade)- Noted that this concern was heard by the head of this department and they have been increasing the amount to meet the need. Trying to balance increasing the amount made each day with minimizing the amount of waste generated. Veronica requested everyone to check with their kids to see if they have seen an improvement and if there is still a gap to send over the concern.

COUNSELOR INTRODUCTION, Sarah Healy

Missed getting the intro during meeting ending/restarting confusion. Hopefully we can get together next time.

NEW BUSINESS

Jennifer discussed a request for funding for Science Olympiad sent to PTO for review (parent didn't attend due to double zoom meeting confusion). The PTO board will discuss it in the next board meeting. Jennifer discussed this inquiry with the previous PTO president and found that historically PTO provided some support to groups for the national level activities but that this isn't formally documented anywhere. Saadia said we have the budget line item for \$5K for requests and that requests like this could be made against that. It was noted that fully sponsoring an activity makes it a PTO event and could fall under our insurance liability.

Linda (safe routes to school) - Quick intro on program and highlight that this is something that can keep going and expand it to other neighborhoods. We can run more regular walking/riding school buses and she can help set up if needed. Contacts on Flyers sent out by district for more info or contact PTO President if more information is desired. Highlighted Arbor Heights neighborhood which is running a walking school bus every morning now due to loss of bus from their neighborhood.