

Strandwood PTA General Association Meeting

March 4, 2021

Welcome & Agenda: (minutes by Lawson): called to order at 7:05 pm by Castle using Zoom

(Quorum min: 16) Virtually attended by: Maggie Castle, Jody Lawson, Cheri Scripter, Jill Russell, Jennifer Roche, Shannon Veltri, Stephanie Taheri, Madeleine Holt, Anne Swanson, Stephanie Markowitz, Jenn Schofield, Tod Gomes, Marissa Shannon, Eva Yee, Tracie Watanabe, Anna Tsai, Erin Cowell, Kandice Caicedo, Liz Mallon, Renee Schumacher, Lindsey Dohlman, Sarah Griffin

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve the February 4, 2021 General Association meeting minutes by Lawson, seconded and approved

Principal's Comments (Scripter)

- New proposed return to school by Superintendent today; March 22: TK-2nd, March 25: 3-5, all other grades after that will start on March 29th. All surveys were collected from families. Our community had about $\frac{2}{3}$ choosing hybrid and $\frac{1}{3}$ choosing to stay in distance learning. We now have to figure out how to roster classrooms based upon our numbers and staffing. Proposing that our site does distance learning for everyone from 8-11 am, then do hybrid from 12-2:30 pm with an A/B schedule. Still figuring out how cohorts may work for SDC students or those receiving other services.
- Rodrigo Sanchez, our new JFK counseling intern has started seeing kids this week. Will try to have grade level groups of 4-6 students.
- What is the principal working on? Our Safety Plan and COVID-10 Prevention Plan are now complete. In March, we will order textbooks for next year and spend down our school budgets. We'll use some of our budget to stock classrooms with emergency supplies and likely the remainder for chromebooks. Our budget next year is around \$48,000. American Heart Association kicked off a few days ago and has already raised over \$2500.
- EDI meeting earlier tonight had a parent ask about what to do if they overheard a derogatory comment while volunteering. Consensus was that it was okay to speak up if they believed there was an insult or hateful speech which would then be further addressed by teacher/principal.

Teacher's Report (Caicedo)

- TK/K: Busy with Trimester Assessments, working on teen numbers, counting on, writing sentences, and learning lots of sight words. Focus in the month of February George Washington and Abraham Lincoln and Chinese New Year!
- 1st: First grade has been busy with report card assessments. We started our place value unit in math. We have found that this is a challenging unit to teach online to first graders. Writing a paragraph with main ideas and details is one of the areas that we're

focusing on. We are just finishing up our astronomy unit, which the majority of the kids have loved!

- 2nd: Addition and Subtraction w/ regrouping along with measurement unit in math. Reading rich fiction and non-fiction texts, Past and present unit is SS and earth science unit coming up
- 3rd: District ELA & Math testing, Earth Science Science unit, Continuing multiplication and division concepts. Writing Biographies, working through Valentine's activities & now on to Chinese New Year. Mrs. Kurk visited us and did an art lesson on "here, near, and far" and it seemed to work pretty well on Zoom.
- 4th: Just finishing multiplication and division unit in math and moving on to Fractions. Completing Poetry unit and Enjoying the novel, Patty Reed's doll. Beginning study of early settlers in Social studies
- 5th: Virtual Delta Voyage for water cycle and ecology; Finishing up Space Science; American Revolution in Social Studies; each class is working on reading a different class novel; Finish up fractions and beginning algebra
- SDC: Letter and sight word reading. Finished up with fun vocabulary around Valentines Day, this week we are writing sentences about Transportation.
- Music: Singing Blues/Jazz, and Chinese NY music. Instrument Identification. Recorder "Karate" afterschool for gr 3-4.
- Overall: Teachers are busy working on report cards and assessments. Many have received their first vaccinations. Continue to work on social and emotional connections as they are starting to see some burn-out in classrooms. Doing the best to adapt programs and support families. Excited to hear about the news for going back to school!

Financial Reports (Roche)

- Review of financial reports presented by Roche
- Motion to ratify checks #7259-7268 by Roche, seconded and approved

VP Reports

VP Communication (Watanabe)

- Green team is working with Ms. Kolbeck for something for Earth Day
- Read & Dream will do a distribution on photo day on March 24th and 25th
- Spiritwear will also do a sale on photo day, including any inventory left over from other sales as well as a two week window to order new items.

VP Programs (Schumacher)

- No report

VP Ways & Means (Holt)

- Working on Dine-Out Nights as we move through spring; possibly have Kona Ice come to campus?
- Read-a-thon will be discussed further under new business

VP Hospitality (Taheri)

- Staff Appreciation Week (SAW) starts on Monday the 8th! Coffee cards and treats for the staff on Monday. Posters are starting to go up. On Tuesday, flower baskets are created/delivered by classes. Reverse parade will happen on Wednesday afternoon from 12:15-1:45 and staff will have a boxed lunch. Supply Day is happening Thursday and more special deliveries from students on Friday.
- Discussing 5th grade t-shirts and whether a 4th grade parent wants to take on coordinating entry submissions for a design contest and then following up with ordering.

Unfinished Business

- Bylaws Update: Proposed amendments have been submitted. One of the bigger changes would be to increase our dues from \$8.25 to a flat \$10 fee. The vote to accept the amendments will be at the May 6th meeting. The proposed amendments can be found at: <http://www.strandwoodpta.org/forms>

New Business/Recommendations of the Executive Board

- Update on Extra-Curricular Activities
- Nominating Committee Report (Taheri)
 - There are still a few vacant positions unfortunately.
 - Proposed slate (still pending)
 - President: Hannah Robrecht
 - EVP: Liz Mallon
 - VP Communications: OPEN
 - Asst. VP Comm: OPEN
 - VP Ways and Means: OPEN
 - Asst. VP Ways & Means: Ami Stevens
 - VP Programs: Jill Russell
 - Asst. VP Programs: OPEN
 - VP Hospitality: Stephanie Taheri
 - Asst. VP Hospitality: Stephanie Markowitz
 - Secretary: Shannon Veltri
 - Treasurer: Christine Finkas
 - Financial Secretary: Jennifer Roche
 - Auditor: Madeleine Holt
 - Historian: OPEN
 - Parliamentarian: OPEN
- Motion to approve signing a contract with Believe/Otis Spunkmeyer for the 2021 Fall Fundraiser by Lawson, seconded and approved
- Motion to approved signing a contract with Pledgestar for a Spring Fundraiser "A-Thon" event to be held in April or May 2021 by Lawson, seconded and approved
 - Looking for helpers to coordinate: Anna Tsai and Jennifer Roche stated they could assist

- Motion to reimburse MDUSD for the following positions for the 2021-2022 school year:
 - one 0.475 FTE Senior Instructional Assistant position (Science),
 - one 0.475 FTE Instructional Assistant position (Reading) by Lawson, seconded and approved
- Motion to reimburse MDUSD for the following positions for the 2021-2022 school year:
 - one 0.150 FTE Instructional Assistant position (Art) by Lawson, seconded and approved by Lawson, seconded, *motion failed*
 - Consider looking at other programs such as artsattack.com or funding arts through other means or vendors
- Motion to approve the following fundraisers for the general fund for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year:
 - Farm Fresh to You
 - Dine-Out Nights by Lawson, seconded and approved
- Proposed use of Future 5th grade Funds for the following:
 - Virtual Outdoor Ed Field Trip (approx. \$800). More details to follow. (Could possibly use a matching donation that came into school for this!)
 - 5th Grade Yearbooks
 - Yard signs for the outgoing 5th graders
 - Drive through promotion ceremony
- Motion to approve Events Calendar as presented below by Lawson, seconded and approved

Open Discussion

- Discussing doing auction photos again if we can figure out the logistics. More info to come!

Announcements

- Scholastic Book Fair – ends March 14 (online)
- American Heart Association Challenge – Mar 2-19
- Staff Appreciation Week Mar. 8-12
- See's Candies Fundraiser Mar. 8- 19
- Executive Board Meeting – Mar. 16 (7:00pm via Zoom)
- School Pictures – Mar.24/25
- EDI Committee Meeting- Apr. 1 (6:00pm via Zoom)
- General Association Meeting (Exec. Board Elections) – Apr. 1 (7:00pm via Zoom)
- Cesar Chavez Day– Apr. 2 NO SCHOOL
- Spring Break- Apr. 5-9 NO SCHOOL
- Read-A-Thon Pledge drive – April/May 2021
- Memorial Day – May 31 NO SCHOOL
- Last Day of School – June 2

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm by Castle