

June 2020 PTSA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 9, 2020 and Thursday, June 18, 2020

(note these meetings were conducted via Zoom)

Tuesday, June 9, 2020:

1. Meeting called to order at 2:34pm (Christina Smedegaard).
2. May minutes were posted and approved as written and stand as presented (Samar Herrmann).
3. President's Report (Christina Smedegaard):
 - a. announced some open PTSA positions; the most time-sensitive openings were posted in Bobcat Blast, such as Art Docent leads (shadowing position for proper handover), Reflections, Chess Club, Student Council, STEM Coordinator/Robotics, Communications, Bobcat Blast, Directory, Spring Fun Run
 - b. conducting a re-election of next year's Executive Board officers during newly-announced General Meeting on Thursday, 6/18 at 2:30pm due to requirement to announce slate 15 days prior to election
 - c. job descriptions for open officer positions are available
4. Brief introductions of new meeting attendees.
5. Treasurer's Financial Report (Paula Hobbs):
 - a. will need to approve the budget for 2020-2021 school-year
 - b. went through proposed budget in-detail with share-screen, including explanation of auction earnings, auctions costs, etc.; copy of report is available online (PTSA website); pretty healthy budget for next year
 - c. answered all questions
 - d. Diana Heyd motioned to approve the 2020-2021 budget as presented; Danielle Kolesnikov seconded the motion; no further discussion; PTSA voted and approved the 2020-2021 with no abstentions
6. Committee Reports (quick run through to check-in):
 - a. Outreach (Diana Heyd and Jenny Adlakha): no new updates
 - b. Communications (Amy Himowitz): important role, especially with how next school-year will look; yearbook is done and looks amazing, thank you Paula Hobbs and Catharine Holtan
 - c. Programs (Danielle Kolesnikov and Vivian Bae):
 - i. regarding Robotics, if school opens as-normal in the fall, we would need a coordinator who would work with teacher-advisors and dean of students, as well as with the district coordinator; set-up would also entail sending out applications, accepting students, having parent meetings, and finding coaches for the teams; then for 8-10 weeks, have weekly 2-hour meetings at the school; in December, there's a 12-hour competition you would also need to attend
 - ii. we hope to find representatives to cover these roles with the assumption that school will run as-is next year

- d. Fundraising/Membership (Ewelina Hickey): no new updates; will meet with new officer (Lana Williams) in the near future to hand over the role
 - e. Service and Rec (Marta McCraw): unable to carry out the last school lunches but held awards during last meeting; one more award for Outstanding Educator Award; Ewelina Hickey noted that nomination forms weren't sent out; Marta McCraw will reach out to Jamie Starnicky; Amy Raber noted that, because of this year, Issaquah Middle School honored all staff instead of recognizing one person specifically, and suggested that we do something similar as an alternative option due to time-sensitivity
7. Principal's Report (Mr. Drew Terry):
- a. What to Expect Next Year: wishing more answers were available; awaiting state guidelines, then the district will trail that by about a week with planning; it's beyond only the district making decisions and includes the teachers and unions as well; contract negotiations take forever to get anything agreed upon; on top of that, any decisions are subject to change before the end of summer (hopefully for the better); principals have been told to stop scheduling for next year; looking at various different models (there are a lot!); August will be hectic; plan for the best and then adjust for change; schedule events as-is, then figure out plan B if needed and go from there
 - b. Staffing and District Change: three paras are retiring (Mrs. Unger, Mrs. Lawson, and Helen Yantus); Ellen Greene (LRC I) has been reassigned to Cascade Ridge next year; reading program staffing has been reduced (Ms. Daley's time has been reduced and will be reduced even further the following year) because district is wanting to achieve more balance between all schools, and ours has performed well; reallocating resources to schools that have higher need with children (i.e. lower scores); but our program works, so plan is to provide professional development to classroom teachers to help support struggling readers; Ms. Daley will do as much work in the actual classrooms for teachers to observe what she does; Mrs. Allott is also officially retiring; planning something to honor all of these people
 - c. 5th Grade Camp Warm Beach (2020-2021): Mr. Terry had been working on different dates for camp as early as last fall, before school closures from pandemic, while considering springtime camp instead of fall-time, looking at Camp Warm Beach as well as Camp Coleman, and locked in 3 days in May 2021 at Camp Warm Beach, if the district will allow us to go to camp; ability to go to camp might need to be an equal opportunity amongst all ISD schools, so will still need the green-light from the district; at least a date is set
 - d. Student Materials/Belongings Pickup: the bags the teachers have prepared for the students are loaded; assigned hour of time next Monday and Tuesday (15th and 16th) based on last name of student; please use car tag and see detailed instructions on how to use it; two separate areas for pickup to avoid crowding (grades 2-5 outside front door, grades K-1 on side of building near bus loop/turnaround); neighbor or friend can pick up for you if unable to attend
 - e. 5th Grade Promotion (2019-2020): thank you to PTSA for support to carry out plans; really wanted to do something special for the students; had an idea to have individual yard-signs for each 5th grader made using Dorian; will wrap sides of whole parking lot with these yard-signs during drive-through promotion ceremony on Friday, 6/19 from 3-4pm; group of parents will also be decorating the front area of the school; video from teachers will be ready for 5th graders around 10am that morning; will be the best that we could do and are excited to celebrate these

kids – they’ve been through a lot this year!; looking forward to the ceremony to honor them going forward

- f. Questions: Mr. Terry took a lot of time to very thoroughly answer all questions from attendees, pertaining to anticipated attendance model for fall, safety for all next year (teachers, staff, students, etc.), consistency of remote platforms, teacher involvement, social-emotional concerns, borrowed laptops, highly capable testing, protests/diversity, and so on
- g. Thanks to all of you; still shocked by auction success, especially in the online setting!
8. New Business: none, but please note that slate for new officers has been posted on the PTSA website
9. PTSA meeting was adjourned at 4:22pm.

Thursday, June 18, 2020:

1. Meeting called to order at 2:35pm (Christina Smedegaard).
2. Paula Hobbs moved to move forward with the consent agenda; Diana Heyd seconded
3. Election of PTSA Executive Officers for 2020-2021 School Year
 - a. currently have enough people on the call, which is more than enough to move forward with voting
 - b. followed script as required in the WA State PTA Bylaws (Christina Smedegaard, Secretary Samar Herrmann, and Nominating Committee chair Jenny Adlakha):
 - i. For President: Christina Smedegaard; For Vice President: Amy Finholm and Samar Herrmann; For Treasurer: Ewelina Hickey; For Secretary: Stephanie Sladic; For Outreach: Jenny Adlakha and Diana Heyd; For Communications: Ellen Kwor; For Fundraising & Membership: Lana Williams; For Programs: Julie Chang; For Service & Recognition: Marta McCraw and Jamie Starnicky
 - ii. no further nominations from the floor and no objections for any of the officers; according to the bylaws, the candidates are hereby elected; per Council, since there isn’t more than one candidate running for any position, there’s no need to move to approve the officers, but just to be safe, the PTSA voted and all approved with no objections
 - c. Christina thanked all outgoing officers for their duties on the Board and your hard work and dedication
4. All Schools Grant Application (Paula Hobbs): 5th grade team: with all the recent activity with protests and racial awareness, the teachers have wanted to further their book diversity; 3rd grade team also going to expand their library, but they can use their Grade Level Grants since their field trips and such were cancelled (5th grade team had used theirs on the JoyLabz “Makey Makey” STEM pack earlier this school-year); Paula read through the request for \$1100; Paula Hobbs moved to approve the All Schools Grant for 5th grade teachers to use on books; Julie Chang seconded the motion; the PTSA voted and all approved with no objections
5. New Check-Signers (Paula Hobbs): note the official check-signers for 2020-2021 will be President Christina Smedegaard, Treasurer Ewelina Hickey, Executive Vice President Amy Finholm, and Executive Vice President Samar Herrmann
6. No new Business; PTSA meeting was adjourned at 3:02pm.