

PSO General Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2021 ran from 6:30-7:45pm

In attendance: Tara Blake (PSO Fundraising Chair), Liz Erickson (PSO Treasurer), Selina Gillespie (PSO Enrichment Chair), Laurie Ganberg (PSO Secretary), Carrie Engbert (K teacher and PSO staff liaison), Michele Hamilton (Westgate office manager), James Roy (6th grade teacher), Patti Gilman (K teacher), Mary Freitas (Westgate principal), Samson Tsegay (parent), Rachel Lyman (parent), Lauren Seaburg (parent), Lindsey Tracy (parent), Mark Nicholson (Westgate Student Intervention Coord), Sara (parent)

November Meeting Minutes approved unanimously

I. Guest Speaker: Sally Guzmán, Family and Community Engagement Coordinator for Edmonds School District's Diversity, Equity and Outreach department.

Sally shared about ways that the District is supporting families this year in COVID pandemic: chromebooks, Comcast internet essentials plan, hotspots for internet access, partnering with Foundation to deliver meals to families who are unable to go to pick up site (with help of volunteers - delivering to about 200 families), hub for students who are experiencing homelessness. They don't have financial assistance to give out directly to families but can help connect families to District and community resources. Families can contact 425-431-1454 or familysupport@edmonds.wednet.edu Monday - Friday / Lunes - Viernes 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Edmonds School District adopts a Black Lives Matter Month of Action in February. There was a "beginning" training on BLM for educators yesterday and an "intermediate" training planned for tomorrow. There will be some district-wide events that anyone can attend including lunchtime read-a-louds. There's a BLM Month of Action Planning Cmte if you're interested in getting involved you can email Sally at GuzmanReyesS@edmonds.wednet.edu

There will also be an LGBTQIA month featuring a webinar with speakers, potentially some read-a-louds again. And planning to expand in future to include events recognizing Asian and Pacific Islanders, Native American Heritage, and Latinx communities as well as having training on ability/disability.

II. Principal's Report from Mary

- Thanked the PSO for helping with supplies
- District newsletter sent out by email today - info in it for the 2021 Levy, will be looking for parent and staff help on an elections committee - contact Mary for more info
- Getting ready for next year's kindergarten - there will be a kick off event Feb 8 District, then three other Westgate events. Planning for Jumpstart - may look different and dates are not yet finalized. Hoping to know in February about K/6th grade potential move due to space.
- No COVID update until bargaining is finished, though preparations continue

III. Fundraiser updates

- Spiritwear - still some items left for sale (water bottles, winter beanies, car magnets, umbrellas). [See items here](#)

- Goodwill event this Saturday - still need volunteers for the second half. [Sign up here](#)
- Read-a-thon - dates are being finalized. Will line up with Ms Whitman's "March Madness" that starts next week. This is our biggest fundraiser, replacing the Fun Run this year, and goal is to bring in \$7000. Will need teachers' help to encourage students to participate in the fundraising and reading.
- Charleston Wrap brought in about \$2000

IV. Teacher Appreciation

Typically first full week of May - looking for ideas. Brainstormed: video for the staff, gift cards, some sort of online game for the staff to play.

V. Yearbook ideas

Looking for ideas for ways to generate more content for the yearbook: encourage teachers to take pictures of their zoom classes; have teachers do surveys/questions for their class that could be included on class page; have teachers create an "activity" or "assignment" in seesaw/canvas so that the students can upload a picture, drawing, or something to be included in the yearbook. Parent expressed that this would make it easier for them to do rather than being an extra ask.

ASB is planning a spirit day next Friday, January 29 - more info coming soon. This could be an opportunity for some pictures for yearbook, too! ASB is also planning some clubs - in process of asking for teacher involvement and then will send out forms to students to get involved. Ideas include pet club, art club, cooking club, knitting club.

VI. Treasurer's Update

We're drawing down reserves in checking but still have \$22k in checking and \$19k in investment account. \$3144 came in for holiday giving, but PSO was just acting as a bank for the school and used that money plus \$500 budgeted to purchase gift cards to give out to families.

Board approved \$2200 for additional school supplies in January. May need a third round of school supplies in the spring. There was a grant request for \$638 to cover fees for missing library books from last year; Board decided to fund that on the scholarship line item.

Requesting that if teachers have classroom reimbursements to submit as part of their \$250 classroom grant to submit receipts as soon as possible.

Because revenue is significantly decreased this year, Board recommended pausing grant applications at this time until after the Read-a-thon fundraiser. **Unanimously approved.**

Approved the treasurer's report unanimously.

Next meeting is February 17, 2021 from 6:30-7:30