

## International Family Committee Report 2019-2020 School Year

### August:

Meet w/ Sandy Gianella (sgianella@mtlsd.net) to discuss needs for the year. Sandy is the ESL teacher and is our #1 best resource at school. The chair should get access to Talking Points, an app used to communicate to parents in their own language.

### September:

Plan ESL meeting for before 1st PTA meeting - discuss with parents what the PTA does, how it can help, and if able, help them to register on myschoolanywhere.

Begin parent conversation group (works best in the mornings after drop-off at school. Need a public location (business on Beverly Rd worked best) where we don't have to buy something (so look into Nippers, Bados, IO Deli, Inner Rutz). Use TalkingPoints app to contact ESL parents before each meeting. Be clear that they can bring their small children or other family members.

Begin monthly buddy lunches, if applicable.

Hispanic Heritage Month begins Sept. 15 - Oct 15. We have a flag bunting that goes up in the cafeteria ceiling (I just tuck it into the ceiling tiles along the window wall. We have table top info things that the cafeteria workers set out with information about each country.

### October:

Remove flag bunting after Oct. 15

Continue Parent Conversation Group

All School Playdate - Pick an afternoon that looks promising for weather, and send out word to the WHOLE SCHOOL that the international family committee is sponsoring a playground playdate from 4-5pm. Provide a snack (goldfish is a good choice). This is to put parents and kids out in the same place together, hopefully to encourage mixing.

### November

Book band for International Potluck (Regina Ketter, rketter@mtlsd.net is our contact - Sandy is friends with her and can help connect. She used to be the strings teacher at Lincoln).

Begin planning any academic component of the potluck, if applicable. Will need to coordinate w/ teachers to make this happen. Resist temptation to use an ESL Kid's country for the classroom study - it puts them on the spot and makes them feel like they should be an expert in their country. They are not, they are just children and may be shy or not want to be the center of attention.

Continue Parent Conversation Group

### December

Assess needs for potluck - plates, bowls, cups, flatware. We get a cooler for water to reduce plastic waste and cost of water bottles.

Continue parent conversation group

### January

Continue parent conversation group

Potluck - request high school volunteers for potluck as follows from 3rd VP of PTA:

**Set-up: 5-6pm - 4 volunteers.**

- Ensure tables are set up properly, craft area is prepared, and any help the band will need in the music area.

**Event: 6-8pm - 8-10 volunteers.**

- Craft room: 3-4 volunteers to help kids and keep the craft area organized.
- Food room: 5-6 volunteers to help families "check in" and make info cards for their foods, ensure that there are enough plates/silverware/cups, any necessary cleanup during the event

**Clean-up: 8-9pm - 4 volunteers**

- help with any last minute cleanup and putting things away in all of the areas used.

1 month before potluck, include info in PTA and Kitsko Sunday emails.

1 week before potluck, send home flyers in kids backpacks advertising.

Potluck is held in late January/early February from 6-8pm. Mr Kitsko is familiar with the setup.

February

Black History Month - switch BHM cards for the HH cards for the cafeteria tabletops

Consider adding decoration/posters?

Continue Parent Conversation group

March-May

Continue Parent conversation group

Hold 1 or more after school playground playdates