

# Minutes

Elmhurst D205 PTA Council

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**Date:** Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 7pm via Zoom

**In Attendance:** Alison Dondlinger, Angie Brauneis, Anne Zimmer, Beth Concannon, Bianca Parisi, Casey Braun, Dena Fasheh, Elena Cutri, Gwen Eisenmenger, Hilary Simonds, Jennifer Cello, Jennifer Hall, Jennifer Kramer, Jill McCall, Karen Sienko, Katharine Wagner,, Kristen Gryglas, Kristie Szejner, Laura Gibson, Mary Young, Meghan Hood, Melissa Ehmann, Michelle Huber, Michelle Wehrle, Patti Berner, Rachel Olson, Sean Cullen, Suji LaBine, Tracy Ries. **Guests:** David Moyer, Jim Collins, Krisiti Amendola. **Absent:** Whitney Curcio

**Meeting called to order** by president Michelle Huber at 7:01pm. The minutes from the September 1, 2020 meeting were emailed and approved as presented.

## **Guest Speaker - Kristi Amendola, D205 Foundation, Executive Director**

- Foundation 205 (formerly known as the D205 Foundation) has finished its Community Response Fund. The Fund was created in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and raised over \$120,000.
- Holiday Trees sold out. Sold 2,100 trees compared to 1,500 prior year.
- 2021 Fundraising Gala is expected to be virtual and feature students & teachers.
- Impact For Education Awards will be offered again in the spring. Parents will be able to award teachers with a note and a gift card from a local business.

## **District Reports**

### **Superintendent - Dr. David Moyer:**

- Track the metrics that our administrative team uses at D205 COVID-19 Dashboard (<https://www.elmhurst205.org/resources/open-d205/covid-19-dashboard>). Elmhurst saw a spike last week due to community activity, including the local OrangeTheory outbreak and is currently at 4.78% positivity rate.
- Oct. 9 is a Teacher Institute Day and staff can work remotely as schools are cleaned.
- School Board Retreat held.
- Feedback on Virtual Parent Open House; consensus was that upper grade levels favored the new format and younger grade levels were mixed.

### **Board of Education - Jim Collins:**

- Key Performance Indicators are constantly being measured and trying to improve.
- On Oct. 7, the school board will issue 40M bonds to finance construction efforts.
- At the 10/13 Board meeting, a presentation will be given on the interior of Lincoln.
- Wants to know the favorable and unfavorable impacts of the new school formats. Feedback was given on reduced instruction time, AP testing, in-person attendance and support needed for IEP students.

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## **PTA Council Board Reports:**

**Treasurer Jennifer Cello:** Presented statement of activities for the three months ended September 30, 2020.

**Corresponding Secretary - Anne Zimmer:** Nothing to report

**Recording Secretary - Suji LaBine:** Nothing to report

**VP Scholarship - Kristi Szejner & Dena Fasheh:** Will be partnering with Foundation 205 to meet fundraising goals. First, we are selling cookie dough. Information will be sent to school reps within the week.

**VP Programs - Rachel Olson & Casey Braun:** We are working with Foundation 205, Bev Redmond and Beth Hosler to bring positive events to our community.

## **President - Michelle Huber:**

- We will discuss and vote on the 2020 Budget and revised PTA Council Bylaws.
- Thank you for turning in donations. Deadline is Oct 15.
- Fundraising Priorities Plan is due to Michelle Huber no later than Oct 15.
- PTA training is required in the bylaws. PTA 101 and Presidents Course is upcoming.

## **PTA Council Chairperson Reports:**

**Reflections - Michelle Werhle:** A Reflections website is being created for the district. The site will have all information, timelines and forms. Encourage schools to share program kick-off and activities on multiple platforms/social media. Entries due 11/30.

**REACH - Patti Berner:** Great attendance at last two events. Next meeting is October 16 at 11:30 via zoom. November 5 at 7PM will be Parent Info Night. Dave Beedy STEM Director, Math Pathways will be joined by York Mathematics Department Chair Erik Westerberg as a guest speaker and co-presenter.

**SERG - Mary Young & Elena Cutri:** Dr. Rubenstein, Asst Supt of Student Services will share Special Education program plans for the school year at 10/20 meeting. Please help get the word out. Still need school reps from Madison and Jackson. Questions are coming in about transition plans due construction.

**Summer Rec Open House Jill McCall:** Will meet in December. Still need reps from a few schools. Please let me know your thoughts on how this event should proceed... online, change locations, cancel or reduce the number of attendees.

## **Unit PTA Presidents Updates/ Questions:**

**Allison Dondlinger, Hilary Simonds, Jennifer Hall, Bianca Parisi** - Bryan, Churchville, and Sandburg's PTAs joined forces for a drive-thru fundraiser at all McDonalds in the area. Proceeds were split between the three middle schools.

**Tracy Ries** - Started a collaboration with elementary school PTA presidents to share ideas. At her school, they are printing students' thank you emails to give to teachers, getting something for the custodians, hosting a virtual parents wine tasting and having a Halloween decorating contest.

**Jen Kramer** - Had their SERG rep report at a PTA meeting to increase awareness and compassion for individuals with disabilities. Created a Mental Health Awareness Week to include How to Identify Anxiety signs. Arranged for Key Club to pick up trash around her neighborhood.

**Beth Concannon** - Is seeing more participation in meetings and has had a tremendous response to requests for donations to provide individual packaged meals for teachers during Parent Teacher Conference days.

**Katharine Wagner** - Is pursuing her idea to foster a link between elementary schools by connecting students as pen pals. Breaking from their studies gives an opportunity to practice and develop their reading and writing skills.

**Mary Young** - wants to mimic @203ShoutOut for D205. The idea is to show our educators we appreciate them by submitting a "Shout Out" via twitter.

## **New Business:**

- **UCCAA "Food Drive" Update** - It will be a virtual drive and the current need is great. Please help get the word out via social media and all communications. Drive starts Oct 26 will offer a QR code to make donating easy.
- **2020-2021 Budget Approval** - The Budget for the 2020-2021 school year was finalized and presented at the Sept 1 meeting. The motion to accept Budget for was made by Meghan Hood and seconded by Kristen Gryglas. Motion Pass.
- **2020-2021 By-Laws Approval** - The Bylaws were revised and presented at the Sept 1 meeting. The main changes were removal of old positions, change in language and removal of dollar amounts. The motion to accept the Bylaws was made by Jenn Cello and seconded by Laura Gibson. Motion Pass.

**Next Meeting** is November 3, 2020 at 7pm via Zoom

**Meeting Adjourned** at 8:56pm.

**Minutes Compiled by** Suji LaBine, Recording Secretary