

Minutes

Elmhurst D205 PTA Council

Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 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 Hall, Jennifer Kramer, Jill McCall, Karen Sienko, Katharine Wagner, Kristen Gryglas, Kristie Szejner, Laura Gibson, Mary Young, Meghan Hood, Melissa Ehmann, Michelle Huber, Rachel Olson, Sean Cullen, Suji LaBine, Tracy Ries, Whitney Curcio. **Guests:** David Moyer, Kara Caforio, Kurt Anderson, Ariana Leonard, Kelly Carpenter, Gina Padgett. **Absent:** Jennifer Cello, Michelle Wehrle, Patti Berner.

Meeting called to order by President, Michelle Huber, at 7:03pm. The minutes from the December 1, 2020 meeting were emailed and approved as presented.

Guest Speakers

- Mr. Kurt Anderson – Parent Lead for the Dual Language Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC)
- Ms. Ariana Leonard – D205 Director of Language Acquisition/Lead contact for Bi-lingual Parent Advisory Committee (BPAC)

The DPAC is a group for parents who have children in the Dual Language program. The group meets monthly and aims to: support parents and administration leadership, create a forum to help each other and provide feedback on the program.

District Reports

Superintendent - Dr. David Moyer:

- CDC released a statement about schools reopening. The District is following the changing recommendations and numerous revised guidelines.
- D205 secured vaccines for its workforce. 1st wave appointments have been scheduled. A doctor from DuPage Medical Group helped the district coordinate the vaccination effort with Edward-Elmhurst.
- Return to School Update: End goal continues to be in-person learning as much as possible. Will continue with a 5hr day concept and no lunch. Looking at dedicated remote instructors. Will ask for commitment on attendance because currently too hard for teacher's lesson planning. Currently, ramping up summer school for credit recovery, scrutinizing D and F grades at York, and looking at data from formative assessments.
- D205 COVID-19 Metrics & Dashboard Update: will talk to Bev to see how the site can be improved to create a simpler communication.
- Finalizing the plan to return more students to in-person learning on a more consistent basis. This plan will be presented to the Board for approval at its February 9 meeting.

Board of Education - Kara Caforio:

- Lincoln project update - Approved bids at last Board meeting. Encourage you to watch the rendition video. Truly a community project.
- COVID Update: In July 2020 voted unanimously to open schools. Guidelines kept changing but opened at the greatest capacity possible. Today the metrics are good, so alternating Wednesdays to get more kids in school, working on getting 1500 people vaccinated, working things out with the Union and sports are operating via IHSA guidelines.
- Superintendent Search - Interviewed three search firms, choose School Exec Connect. Our consultants are Tim Shimp, current Supt @ Yorkville and Linda Yonke, retired Supt @ New Trier. Parents, staff, and community members will be invited to Focus Groups and an online survey. Data gathered is used to make a profile and gather candidates. Expect search to conclude at the beginning of April.

PTA Council Board Reports

Treasurer - Michelle Huber for Jennifer Cello: Presented statement of activities for the seven months ending January 31, 2021. Expenses paid for REACH teachers and income collected for cookie dough fundraiser for PTA Council Scholarship.

Corresponding Secretary - Anne Zimmer: Nothing to report.

Recording Secretary - Suji LaBine: Nothing to report.

VP Scholarship - Kristi Szejner & Dena Fasheh: Please promote the D205 Foundation event this weekend. We are trying to do 10 scholarships but still being determined. Application for scholarship is live. Deadline is 3/12.

VP Programs - Rachel Olson & Casey Braun: Nothing to report.

President - Michelle Huber: BOE Candidate Forum on 2/16 hosted by Sandburg, Edison, Field and Hawthorne. Bryan will host another forum on Mar 8.

PTA Council Chair Reports

Summer Rec Open House - Jill McCall: Tonight was the first ever virtual SROH. Big success. 60 camps, 50 breakout rooms. Camps and parents were so thankful and are open to virtual format in future. Special thanks to RJ at district.

REACH - Gina Padgett for Patti Berner:

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- REACH Program Analysis - update to be presented at 2/9 BOE meeting. May be pushed.
- Parent Info Nights - "REACH Appeals Process" (April 5), "New to REACH" (TBD)
- Next REACH Meeting is 2/12 with Dave Beedy (D205 Dir of STEM Education). He will share math programs, apps and games for elementary age kids.
- Math Enrichment Zooms, run by York math team students, free one hour sessions for 7th and 8th graders. Five total sessions.

Reflections - Michelle Huber for Michelle Werhle: Nothing to report.

SERG - Mary Young & Elena Cutri:

York High School Transition Center paperwork signed for "The Abbey". Looking to open in Fall 2021.

Unit PTA Presidents Updates/Questions:

- York Student Council is hosting a book drive from now until the end of March. Collected material will be donated to Scarce in Addison.

New Business:

- Laura Gibson - PTA Council Nominating Committee: Three members needed. Please contact Laura if interested.

Next Meeting is March 2, 2021 at 7pm via Zoom

Meeting Adjourned at 9:42pm.

Minutes Compiled by Suji LaBine, Recording Secretary