

Minutes

Elmhurst D205 PTA Council

Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 via Zoom

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

Meeting called to order by President, Michelle Huber, at 7:02pm. The minutes from the February 2, 2021 meeting were emailed and approved as presented.

Guest Speaker - Kristi Amendola, Foundation 205, Executive Director

- Thank you! Virtual Showcase was a success. Thank you PTAs for the outpouring of assistance. Raised over \$175,000. This support allows us to fund the Thiems grant program, scholarships for York seniors and expand all schools' libraries inclusive literature.
- Impact for Education Awards are back. \$25 allows you to recognize a teacher with a personal note and a \$20 gift card from a local business. \$5 donation will be made to support Foundation 205. Orders will be taken 3/9 through 4/9.
- 2021 Spring Art Contest - Foundation 205 is sponsoring an art contest. Submissions are being collected now.

District Reports

Superintendent - Dr. David Moyer:

- Thank you to all the volunteers that helped with saliva screening kit assembly.
- Return to School Update:
 - As of yesterday, all K-5 are in school 5 days/week. Expect more in-person learning at middle and high school level to begin on March 15.
 - Week of March 22 will be the next communication for K-5 to change their intent for in-person or remote instruction.
 - At the Mar 16 BOE meeting, the administration will present a plan that includes information on increased in-person learning for the rest of the school year. In April will present overview plans for the 2021-22 school year.
 - Saliva Screening - should control spread of virus by identifying asymptomatic carriers. "COVID-19 Saliva Screening: What You Need to Know" is a community zoom event hosted by D205 and it is this Thursday, March 4.
 - Quarantines - a communication/graphic will be sent to clarify District practices related to quarantines based on the most up-to-date guidance.
- Standardized testing - D205 is preparing to administer assessments this spring. Waivers are being discussed. Information will be communicated around Mar 3.
- REACH program proposal for next steps - will be presented at the next BOE meeting.
- Thought Exchange survey comes out on Friday, March 5. This allows the community to weigh in on identifying community priorities for the 2021-22 school year.
- Ad Hoc Survey by D205 of 45 suburban school districts to measure how we compare on in-person instruction:

- 4 districts (including D205) are socially distancing at less than 6ft. Remaining districts are social distancing at 6ft.
- Of 45 districts,
 - 15 districts are in-person 5x/week @ K-5
 - 6 districts are in-person 5x/week @ 6-8
 - 2 districts are in-person 5x/week @ 9-12
- 16 District reports 70% or more families desire in-person attendance. D205 @ 85%
- Of districts in 5x/week, 2 are less than 800 students

Director of Communications and PR - Beverly Redmond:

- Thought Exchange - survey is March 5-15. Results are real-time. District plans to present the options that were sourced directly from the school community at the Mar 16 BOE meeting. This is a very important event that focuses on where we want to be, especially in the 2021-22 school year. Expects focus group will also be used in the future
- Monday, March 8 - The zoom session "The Purpose of Play..." is geared towards our EC5 team. Please share the registration link.

Board of Education - Courtenae Trautmann:

- Thank you to all the volunteers that helped with saliva screening kit assembly.
- Superintendent Search Update - Information gathered was presented to the Board along with a New Superintendent Profile. Have over 40 candidates. First round interviews start this week. Expects the search to conclude the beginning of April.
- Seems like there is a lot of transition and wants to assure everyone that this is OK. Optimistic about ETC contract and schools opening further.

PTA Council Board Reports

Treasurer - Jennifer Cello: Presented statement of activities for the 8 months ending 2/29/2021.

Corresponding Secretary - Anne Zimmer: Nothing to report.

Recording Secretary - Suji LaBine: Nothing to report.

VP Scholarship - Kristi Szejner & Dena Fasheh: Application posted and are due 3/12. School Reps will be notified soon on expectations. There is interest in supporting another fundraiser and are exploring options. Today, expect 9 awards at \$1000 each.

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

President - Michelle Huber:

- Thank you Beth, Allison, Jenn, Hillary and Bianca for help with saliva screening kits.

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- Foundation 205's information on the Art Contest and Impact for Education Awards has been emailed. Please include in PTA newsletters.
- In new business, we need to select a Nominating Committee.

PTA Council Chair Reports

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

REACH - Patti Berner:

- REACH Program Proposal - will be presented at 3/16 BOE meeting.
- Parent Info Nights - "REACH Appeals Process" (April 5), "New to REACH" (TBD), "REACH Program Proposal" (TBD)
- Next REACH Meeting is 3/12. Two York freshmen will share their executive functioning tools that can potentially be used by other students. Meetings also on 4/16 and 5/14.
- Math Enrichment Zooms, run by York math team students for 7th and 8th graders.
- 2021-22 planning - need REACH school reps and a Treasurer.

SERG - Mary Young & Elena Cutri:

- York High School Transition Center at "The Abbey" moving forward with architect and program plans being reviewed to make it the best it can be.
- Budget - reaching out to Asst Principals to see what supplemental material is needed.
- SERG Representative Responsibilities - have been updated on the website. Please refer to this information in your PTA newsletter.

Summer Rec Open House - Michelle Huber for Jill McCall: Follow SROH on Facebook as camps are posting more information and new camps are being added.

Unit PTA Presidents Updates/Questions:

- BOE Candidate Forum hosted by the Bryan community is Mar 8. The forum is open to all.
- Middle School Trivia Night was on 2/27 and over \$5500 raised.
- Bryan Treasure Hunt will be on 4/7. It will be virtual and open to all.
- D205 K-5 Shamrock Hunt Mar1 -Mar12. Shamrocks hidden in the windows of Elmhurst buildings. School with the highest percentage of students participating wins a prize.

New Business:

Motion by Casey Braun for Alison Dondlinger, Meghan Hood, Laura Gibson and Rachael Olson (alternate) to serve as the Nominating Committee. Motion seconded and adopted.

Next Meeting is April 6, 2021 at 7pm via Zoom

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05pm.

Minutes Compiled by Suji LaBine, Recording Secretary