



Jefferson PTA General Meeting Agenda March 10, 2021

WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER – at 7:34 Meghan Hood

Jen Bullock, Katie Duffy, Cathy Dykes, Ioana Fernandez, Phil Fernandez, Kelly Fullerton, Regina Gaebel, Vinai Gondi, Becca Harpster, Jenn Klink, Aleka Mandelaris, Joy Maniar, Jackie Messina, Kelsey Muller, Dr. Christina Podraza, Maggie Schweitzer, Paul & Rachel VecchioMeredith Vogel, Laura West, Carrie

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

READING AND ADOPTION OF [FEBRUARY MINUTES](#) - Cathy Dykes

[Motion to Approve by Kathy Fromm, 2nd by Meredith Vogel, passed unanimously](#)

SPECIAL GUESTS

Ms. Jacki Discipio - Bryan Middle School Principal

- Wants to say hello and ensure that we will help transition the 5th graders to middle school sooner than we think
 - Is meeting with the 6th grade team to work on the transition
 - Maggie Pack is the 6th grade counselor (and will remain with the class through 8th grade)
 - Lindsey Rowe and Laurel Strejc are the 6th grade team leaders
 - Tom Sheehan is Assistant Principal
 - Tara Nunes is the dean (attendance, Tier 1 discipline,
- PTA is an active and great resource
 - May 10th is the Bryan May PTA Meeting
 - Will include a parent panel to help new parents navigate the transition
- Weekly newsletters
- Up to date website
- Judy & Frannie are in the office and very helpful
- Homework calendar is online
- Google Classroom is utilized throughout
- Unified Arts schedule is being worked on
 - Schedules are released likely early August
- SBR continues at the middle school
 - Do they get converted to letter grades as well? Yes, they do
- New Chromebooks issued in 6th grade
- 5th Grade students from Lincoln will be welcomed- there is a pod containing 2 new classrooms
- Likely will be able to use lockers
- Bryan Treasure Hunt is April 17th

1st Grade Teachers - Kelly Fullerton, Jenn Klink, Kelsey Muller

- Click here for a [link to their presentation](#)

- **Reading** - Ms. Muller
 - Retelling Fiction
 - Book Baggies have been sent home with phonics readers- keep practicing for fluency and confidence
 - Choice board is used during reading
 - Readers' Workshop will begin soon now that we are in person to incorporate hands on games and activities
- **Writing** - Mrs. Fullerton
 - Student authors are writing their own chapter books about an animal- students are very excited
 - Students will create a ChatterPix
 - similar to the animal doing the pledge during Dr. Podraza's announcements
 - Will next move to narrative writing (Small Moments) to enhance those skills before returning to persuasive writing at the end of the year
 - Phonics work
- **Math** - Ms. Klink
 - Measurement unit is wrapping up - students love it bc it is so hands on
 - Fell at the perfect time with the students returning to in-person learning
 - Upcoming modules include double-digit numbers and place value
 - Counting up to 120
 - Working on addition and subtraction fact fluency
 - Recognizing math vocabulary and utilizing strategies while solving word problems
- **Generally Speaking** - Ms. Muller
 - Working on classroom expectations, routines, and organizing materials
 - We are working through March curriculum while seeing some August behaviors
 - Students love the hands-on activities
 - Handwriting is being reinforced to address reversals, etc
- **How Can I Be Involved at Home?** - Mrs. Fullerton
 - Book bags are sent home - use those towards Dr Podraza's Million Page Challenge
 - Teachers have implemented a tally system to assist with 1st graders tracking their own pages
 - Read high-interest books
 - Encouraging using school and classroom libraries and filling their in school book bag
 - Instead of "How was your day?"
 - What did you learn
 - What was good? What was bad?
 - What was your favorite special?, etc.
 - Please help empty take-home folders
 - Math games are available as well
- Meredith Vogel and Cathy Dykes reminded teachers to spend their allocated \$100
 - A form will be shared with Dr Podraza to include in her weekly staff newsletter

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Dr. Podraza

- Zoom Link availability for attending remotely due to an absence
 - If your child is sick - let them be sick and recover prior to completing absent work
 - If they are recovered from being sick but still under quarantine
 - communicate with nurse, Podraza, and teacher and a Zoom link will be generated for them to attend remotely after a 24-hour notice
 - If your child is required to go home during the day due to a symptomatic family member, allow 24 hours for the link to be generated

- If you are on vacation, work/Zoom link will not be sent ahead of time
 - district policy states work will be sent upon return
- If you choose to quarantine after a vacation let the team know (nurse, Podraza, and teacher) and then the link will be generated for remote instruction
- **This is due to the adjustments that will need to be made to the delivery of the instructional materials and the preparation needed to allow for materials to translate digitally.**
- Planning For Next Year
 - Please fill out the [Thought Exchange](#)
 - [ISBE partnered with IDPH and released guidelines on 3.9.21](#)
- **Staff vaccinations** are progressing - likely completing 2nd doses for Jefferson staff this week
- **2nd Trimester Jefferson Survey** has been released
 - so far we have ~60 responses
 - We would love at least 100
 - In the fall we had ~140
 - Will be included in Dr. Podraza's email one more time
- **OJOB** has wrapped up and was wonderful
- Dr. Podraza has challenged the school to **read 1 Million Pages!**
 - Students become better readers through reading - so this encourages reading
 - End of every week totals will be reviewed and tracked on a thermometer in the school
 - Grade-level classes are competing against each other for the next 3 months
 - Kids are excited and convinced they will achieve
 - Students can record pages read both in and out of school
 - Each student has to read ~2000 during the remainder of the year
 - Hoping to partner with individuals or businesses to pledge \$100 to the food pantry per every 100,000 pages read
 - At 500,000 page benchmark Dr Podraza will read a book from the roof!
 - Once met will have an all-school read-out
 - Outside in groups of 50 and can sit outside and read with blankets, etc with a lunch or a snack - possibly provided by
 - Will watch Charlotte's Web in their classroom on this day as well!
- 3 full school **Fire Drills** between now and April so may see students outside
- **Vacation Quarantine Recommendations**
 - Get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after test - quarantine for 7 days regardless of results
 - If you choose not to get tested it is a 10-day quarantine
 - If less than 3 days of missed school, no need to submit a form, however your child's teacher should be notified and reported via the attendance line
 - Masked air travel is NOT considered high risk
- **Report cards** available on PowerSchool March 19th
- **New Superintendent** potentially named around Spring Break/April??

PTA BOARD REPORTS

Events - Jennifer Bullock

- Perhaps we can schedule a few outdoor events in upcoming months

VP of Fundraising/Social Events – Laura West and Jackie Messina

- You Are Loved Sign campaign - ~\$2276 profit
- McDonald's Eat and Earn was a success
- Thank you for your participation in both!

Programs

- **One Jefferson, One One Book - Kathy Fromm**

- Thank you to the community on behalf of the committee
- Over 900 trivia responses
- Thank you Dr Podraza for your support
- Teachers and staff were an amazing support to keep the kids involved
- Thank you to:
 - Specials teachers Ms. Leban, Ms LeResche, Ms. Serrata, and Ms McCarthy did an amazing job with the Specials Choice Boards
 - Community Support
 - Janet Taylor for creating an art choice board
 - Michael Symber of [Michael Symber Studios](#)- created a drawing tutorial
 - Jill Bissell- cookie decorating tutorial
 - Ms Diamond from Bryan - cooking tutorial
 - Mr Gasso - initial and closing chapter read-alouds
 - Ginger Malcolm for putting the website together
 - Kanako Schuaipaj for outdoor decor and bookmarks
 - Student Council for spirit days
 - Cathy Dykes trivia and prizes coordinator
 - Kathy Fromm & Ioana Fernandez as chairs

Treasurer's Report – Meredith Vogel

- Refer Balance Sheet as of February 28, 2021
 - Cash balance as of February 28, 2021 \$4,925 in checking
 - \$24,284 in savings accounts
 - Total cash balance of \$29,210.
- Refer Income Statement through February 28, 2021
 - YTD net loss is (\$4,724) (Income - \$17,763, Expenses - \$22,487)
 - YTD net loss is attributable to more incoming expenses.
 - Supportive Education spent to date is \$17,106 (ipads, Time for Kids, National Speaker)
- You Are Loved \$2,830 income, expenses of (\$554) = \$2,276

OTHER BUSINESS - Nominating Committee

- ***Please consider taking on a leadership role***
- We need volunteers to fill open positions
 - President - Filled
 - VP Membership
 - VP Communication
 - VP Events
 - VP Programs
 - VP Fundraising
 - VP Fundraising
 - Recording Secretary - Filled
 - Treasurer - Vacant but Interest
- We will share job descriptions and time commitment in the Tiger Beat
- Reach out to Nominating Committee with questions
 - Becca Harpster, Kerri Timmerwilke, Meredith Vogel

President's Report & Correspondence – Meghan Hood

- **York Student Council Book Drive**
 - Box in the vestibule by the office until Spring Break
 - All types of books for all ages collected
- **[Shamrock Hunt](#)** - sponsored by the elementary PTA Presidents
 - 25 Shamrocks around the city
 - Goal is to find 15 shamrocks but all participation counts
 - Turn in your sheets by March 15th
 - Walkable fun, family activity, majority in City Centre, some on Spring Road
 - Winning school based on percentage of participants will earn a **fun** surprise
 - Links for the [Entry Form](#) in the Tiger Beat for form - also on social media
 - Forms can be [uploaded](#) or there is a drop box in the school office
- **Slide Repair** has been completed and is open for business!
 - Huge thank you to Geoff Gaebel and Steve Pierce for their assistance in this issue
 - All grade levels will be able to use the playground now that the weather is nicer and the water is receding

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 8:52

Motion by Meredith Vogel, 2nd by Becca Harpster, passed unanimously