

Minutes

Elmhurst D205 PTA Council

Date: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 via Zoom

In Attendance: Angie Brauneis, Anne Zimmer, Bianca Parisi, Casey Braun, Dena Fasheh, Elena Cutri, Gwen Eisenmenger, Hilary Simonds, Jennifer Cello, Jennifer Kramer, Jennifer Hall, Karen Sienko, Katharine Wagner, Kristen Gryglas, Kristie Szejner, Laura Gibson, Mary Young, Meghan Hood, Michelle Huber, Rachel Olson, Sean Cullen, Suji LaBine, Tracy Ries, Whitney Curcio.

Absent: Alison Dondlinger, Beth Concannon, Jill McCall, Melissa Ehmann, Michelle Wehrle, Patti Berner. **Guests:** Alma Carrillo, Beverly Redmond, Dulce Renelli, Emily Bastedo, Jessica Testani, Kara Caforio, Keisha Campbell, Kelly Carpenter, Lisa Wormer, Marylou Eisenhauer, Sarah Jensen, Trish Poulson,

Meeting called to order by President, Michelle Huber, at 7:02pm.

Minutes from the April 6, 2021 meeting were emailed and approved as presented.

Guest Speaker - Emily Bastedo, We Pop Up Charity Organization, Founder

- Elmhurst based organization that started about 1 year ago. The group will pop up to help get donations to the people who need them most. They organize pop up food pantries, deliver furniture, clothing drives and host seasonal events.
- Collecting unused school supplies soon. Please help publicize via PTA newsletters.
- Follow We Pop Up on Facebook for summer activities and needs.

District Reports

Incoming Superintendent - Dr. Keisha Campbell:

- Thank you to this group for serving and taking a leadership role. Excited to partner with community, students and parents. Values the strong partnership between school and home. York High School graduate and a current District 205 parent.
- Committed to being engaged and listening to students, parents and staff. Specially wants to elevate the students' voices. Will continue to do school visits.
- Understands and is empathetic that it has been a taxing year. Need to build trust and maintain it between district office leadership and the D205 community. Will have transparent communications.
- Working very closely with Linda Yonke for a successful opening of school in the fall.

Board of Education - Kara Caforio:

- For the 2021-22 school year, currently surveying to identify students with a medical condition that will need remote learning. Challenging piece will be, if needed, how students continue learning when quarantined.
- Invited 600 K-8 students for summer programming. Bridge programs and extended school year will also be held this summer.
- Board issued another round of bounds. Lots of construction this summer. Lincoln is set to be demolished in early June.
- Thank you for showing teachers your appreciation this week. Thank you PTSA for underwriting Prom to make tickets only \$20.

Director of Communications and PR - Beverly Redmond:

- Community invited to Lincoln Elementary School for an open house from 1-2 on May 22 to have one last look before the building is razed. Materials excavated are being preserved to capture the heritage of this historical building.
- Inside Edition has contacted D205 to do a segment on York's upcoming prom.
- York Prom needs volunteers. Please contact York PTSA.

PTA Council Board Reports

Treasurer - Jennifer Cello: Presented financial activities for the 10 months ending 4/30/2021. Assets as of 4/30 is \$34,050.

Corresponding Secretary - Anne Zimmer: Nothing to report.

Recording Secretary - Suji LaBine: Nothing to report.

VP Scholarship - Kristi Szejner & Dena Fasheh:

- 71 applications received. Awarded 27 scholarships with the help of Foundation 205 and YHS Class of 1971. Thank you to all those that reviewed applications.
- Looking forward to doing a handover with new committee chairs.

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

President Elect - Laura Gibson:

- I'd like to take the opportunity to seize this energy and evolve PTAs and PTA Council to keep moving forward and keeping fresh.
- SROH has the ability to become a fundraiser and, if we decide to do that, what to do with the money.
- A survey will be sent to gather ideas for where the PTA Council can provide core functions of PTAs, such as community-building, enrichment opportunities, and teacher/administrative support.

President - Michelle Huber:

- UCCA's Taste of Town: Participating Elmhurst restaurants will be holding Eat & Earn events throughout the month of May to benefit food pantries.
- Thank you for all your support this year. Special thanks to Casey Braun for mentoring and being a sounding board.

PTA Council Chair Reports

Reflections - Michelle Huber for Michelle Werhle:

- Incoming chairs are Jill McCall and Anne Zimmer.
- The 2021-2022 Reflections theme is "I Will Change the World By..."

Minutes

Elmhurst D205 PTA Council

REACH - Sarah Jensen for Patti Berner:

- REACH program review has been paused until our next Superintendent is established.
- Next REACH Parent Group meeting is Friday May 14, 11:30 am
- New to REACH parent meeting very tentatively scheduled for June 3.
- Per parents, the appeals went smoother this year. All students to be notified by 5/28.
- Suggested that a BOE member be a liaison for the REACH parent group. Kara Caforio said she would bring it up at the BOE "retreat".

SERG - Mary Young & Elena Cutri: Multiple requests have come from teachers for calming tools specifically for feet. Foot tappers and foot rollers will be purchased with the SERG funds.

Summer Rec Open House - Michelle Huber for Jill McCall: SROH has the opportunity to become a fundraiser by charging camps an admission fee. Jodi Dalton will be the new chair.

Unit PTA Presidents Updates/Questions:

- New PTA presidents were introduced.
- End of year activities planned include: field day over 3 days, outdoor talent show, outdoor 5th grade recognition, creative way to sign yearbooks, fun Fridays (ie slurpee coupon), outdoor classroom upgrades.

New Business: Article 8, Section 1 from bylaws were read to explain the election process. Nominating Committee chair, Laura Gibson, presented the slate of officers for PTA Council 2021-22. The nominated slate of officers are the following:

- President - Laura Gibson
- President Elect - Alison Dondlinger
- Recording Secretary - Suji LaBine
- Corresponding Secretary - Dena Fasheh
- Programs - Casey Braun, Michelle Huber
- Scholarship - Meghan Hood, Jess Messersmith
- Treasurer - Jennifer Cello

H.Simonds motioned and K.Senko seconded to approve slate as presented. **Motion PASSED.**

Adjournment

Next Meeting is Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 7pm (tentative).

Meeting Adjourned at 8:51pm.

Minutes Compiled by Suji LaBine, Recording Secretary.