

# Hamilton Elementary PTA Meeting

Thursday, October 21, 2021/ 7:00 PM

## Attendees

Principal D. Recker, Teacher Liaison C. Buxton, President N. Reinkensmeyer, Vice President L. Larivee, Co-Treasurer P. Joliat, Co-Treasurer G. Ballanger, Communications Officer J. Dobranos, T. Romancheck, A. Lentner, M. Trivedi, B. Murphy, J. Yin, W. Zong, D. Veeresh, E. Herbon, A. Herbon, T. Owens, F. Alani, M. Husaynue

Call to order: 7:02 PM

## Superintendent Update (R. Machesky)

- District Update
  - Very excited to have students back in the classrooms this year, hopefully experiencing a close to normal school year
  - Return of the fine arts to the schools with performances (plays, band, orchestra, etc.)
  - Athletics are back on the fields and have the opportunity to compete
  - Pep rallies, dances, parades have returned
  - 2 national ribbon schools and 2 schools of character have been recognized
- Strategic Plan 2026
  - Updated the green pillar to find a way to expand access to all students in the district. What is the ideal “Portrait of a Graduate” and how can we attain that? What are the skill and, habits of mind that we want all students to emulate across the school district?
  - Challenges
    - Focus now on math recovery as our reading recovery has been very strong in the TSD. Help support all teachers to help their students better understand math. Focus on professional learning utilizing a research based program similar to reading recovery.
    - Investing in red pillar, have a FT social worker at every elementary school. Added counseling support at secondary schools.
    - Staffing is still a concern, very fortunate to be staffed from a teacher perspective. Custodial, transportation and food services still lacking enough staff.
- Looking forward, vaccinations for 5-11 should be available the first week in November.
- Facilities review committee has been formed. They are in the process of looking at all buildings across the school district, assessing what needs to be improved. The goal of the committee is to make a recommendation to TSD of what we need to consider in the future as it relates to safety, and how they function to help support student’s learning going forward.

## Agenda

### Welcome

1. We welcome suggestions for fun outdoor events in lieu of the Holiday Craft Fair and Pastries with Parents
2. Trunk or Treat is tomorrow, hope you can attend!
3. Next PTA Meeting on Thursday, November 18th
4. Book fair is open, parents are welcome to come shop. Please see the sign up for a time slot to come shop in person, otherwise you can shop online.

### Jog-a-thon

5. We raised \$40, 161.95!!! Thank you to our Hamilton families and our community for supporting our school!

### School Updates

6. Painted the remaining classroom cabinets
7. Worked on front landscaping, planted flowers and added 2 planters
8. Student council will be hosting a food drive in November
9. After school programs are now in progress (Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Math Pentathlon)

### Budget

- Hoping to do a big family event at the end of the year
- Teacher Grants for classrooms
- Staff Appreciation - snacks during conferences
- Grounds beautification
- Jogathon shirts and some spending on classroom prizes
- Playground supplies (balls, jump ropes, chalk, etc.)
- Voted on budget: A. Lentner seconds the motion, G. Belanger thirds the motion, all those in favor, vote of 12 to approve the budget
- Large project idea: outdoor learning space

## Principal Update (D. Recker)

- Going to each classroom to read to the students.
- Teachers College for all teachers in progress

- New desks for the teachers, these are moveable carts that gives more flexibility and mobility, wins back more classroom space as well
- Character Committee, working to launch a character program

### Staff Update (C. Buxton)

- Requested a list of teachers who have not used teacher grants yet so she can remind them these funds are available
- Supplemental books? Will that still be available for teachers to request books?

### VP Shout Outs (J. Dobranos)

- Jogathon Committee - Brooke, Chris and Nicole. Worked tirelessly to bring back the Jog-a-thon. Thank you to all parents that helped out at the actual event
- Picture Day - W. Yee and P. Joliat
- A. Herbon, E. Herbon and N. Reinkensmeyer and their husbands for painting classroom cabinets

Adjournment at 8:17pm

Respectfully Submitted, P. Joliat