

CMS PTO Executive Meeting Minutes

Thursday October 21, 2021, 9:00 am

Introductions and Welcome: Mindy 5 min

Updates/ Debriefs: 15 min

- SAC Update- Robin Miller
 - Assembly presentation has been shared- Topics included:
 - Backpack rule after Thanksgiving- Students cannot carry backpacks to class after this day
 - Mask break on West Side of the building- neighbor has complained about noise, John is working on this issue
 - Mask in school- how to get students to keep masks on
- September PTO Meeting follow ups, Open Positions
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- Book Club Updates(Mindy)
 - 30 people responded to a survey sent out, most people are available in the morning or evening
 - Nadia will send out a draft schedule and a point person will be identified
- Fundraising Update (Mindy & Rebecca)
 - Halfway through our campaign- \$14,000 so far, 60 families have donated.
 - CMS family will match all donations up to \$65,000
 - Newsletter, John's direct email will be sent next few weeks for more visibility into the campaign
 - Do we have business or sponsorship? Currently we don't have direct business donations.
- Conference Food(Mindy)
 - Great feedback from teachers. Need to add a set up and break down position next time.
- Green Initiatives Update-
 - Walk to school- 75 CMS students participated. Earned \$545 trip tracker dollars. Meghan will distribute dollars after school today.

Budget Overview and Recommendations, Treasurer: Delphine 15 min

- Balance is same from August to September
- Donations - 76% of initial goal (\$5,000 voted in May 2021), 59% of updated goal (\$6500 revised in September 2021)

General Meeting Topics: 5 min

- Teacher appreciation snacks - more about this in the next few weeks. Would like to do this to boost morale, would like to do this quarterly and ask parents to contribute to this wish list ongoing. We will wait to ask for this after fundraising.
- Upcoming PEN event - November 2 6:00-8:30, Bill de la Cruz will be the presenter

Principal's Update/ Q & A: 15 minutes

- John has expressed thanks and gratitude for PTO participation.
- Open enrollment is coming up- will submit dates for events. Initially events would be virtually, some push back to do in person. Must be at night, with adults only. If it is during the day it must be outside. Working on a really strong virtual video, two events planned. A teacher panel (volunteers) and tours. Another event just John and Liz for Q&A. OE is important because it defines teacher FTE funding. We need to find what kids are in the neighborhood but not attending (we tend to lose kids to Dawson). Not a lot of attrition to Casey, but some one offs for Manhattan (arts) etc. etc. John wants to study this more to counter this. Right now we are full, but we want to keep it that way to keep our teachers. Please spread the word amongst friends.
- Substitute shortage- John did 12- 30 min town halls last week, we have gone from 900 to less than 300. John is even covering classes. Long term subs are easier to find. Many subs are retired teachers who don't want to come in during COVID.
- CMAS in the Spring- from school performance, closing the achievement gap, and teacher performance- data is needed to drive and inform thinking at BVSD. Our school needs to reflect 90% of students, we have not been at this number in 10 years. Opt out movement does impact. The current accountability structure is dependent on this.
- Volunteers in the building- COVID is one reason for volunteers in the building. New security system called Raptor is being implemented to show IDs and authenticate visitors. Once this is trained and implemented visitors there will be more opportunity to have visitors.
- Real focus is to keep teacher morale up- less meetings, more virtual, removing unnecessary activities from teachers. Also working with students to get back into in person mode, adjust behaviors that they may have adopted while at home.
- Oct 25- John will participate in a virtual session with the Dalai Lama for the Compassion & Dignity for Educators project.
<https://www.colorado.edu/crowninstitute/join-his-holiness-dalai-lama-along-world-renowned-scholars-and-k-12-educators-virtual-conversation>
- SAC focus for the next few months is budget. John is working on a sub group to discuss middle school structures and teacher planning time. More to come on this committee work and how it will impact CMS.