

The meeting commenced at 9:17 am.

### **Administrative Reports**

#### **Dr. Deiter, Superintendent**

- The district received the health life and safety report - this is a 10-year requirement. The report was fairly positive. However the roofs have exceeded their given life which is usually 20 to 25 years. Our roofs are 30 years or older. They are two-thirds of the way through the roofing project at Wood Oaks, and have yet to address the roofs at Hickory Point and Shabonee.
- They are also keeping a close eye on enrollment for next year. They're tight on space at Hickory Point and exploring options with the Adventure Campus program. Anticipate that we will add an eighth section of first grade in the fall.
- Currently planning with the Board of Education on how to address the needs further out and then they will go ahead and get messaging out to the community.
- Right now Dr. Olson is helping substitute a class as the district is scrambling with staff shortages. Faculty members are either home sick themselves or with sick children. Emily said she appreciated the district and their ability to keep kids and teachers in school. Dr. Deiter credits 6-foot social distancing and the efforts of teachers and staff.
- Question: Is there a way to get an auditorium at Wood Oaks that would allow choral programs, band and orchestra to be able to have space to perform? This was part of the space utilization study, there is a discussion and there's hope for a future Auditorium. They cannot promise it'll be in the current scope of work. It is on the master facilities plan for consideration and they are always weighing out the cost-benefit analysis. Maybe we can partner with the park district on such an item. Again they are finishing their studies, prioritizing what needs to be done and then will review the financial allocations. At Wood Oaks, they have outgrown the band room, and the orchestra does not have dedicated space so they would also like to make sure that they are able to accommodate those groups as well.

#### **Dr. Fournier, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Student Services**

- Dr. Fournier is currently training three people for substitute positions and continuing to look for certified substitutes in a year like this. Anyone with a bachelor's degree can obtain substitute certification, and the district will train and help you get a license. They can also slowly transition new substitute teachers to the position, for example there's a math teacher that's currently working remotely due to staying home with a child and there is a new substitute teacher getting a chance to work on classroom management today.

#### **Dr. Rio, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations**

- No update at this time.

#### **Mrs. Tarah O'Connell, Director of Communications**

- Tarah is currently on maternity leave. Faith Behr will serve as a replacement and can be reached at behr.f@nb27.org.
- The only other item of note is the satisfaction survey (conducted every other year) is currently out. This will be sent to staff parents and students in fourth through eighth grade. The email should come from School Perceptions today.

**Dr. McElligott, Wood Oaks Principal**

- Dr. McElligott would like to thank the teacher appreciation committees at the schools for their various luncheon and holiday treats. They were appreciated by staff and teachers alike.
- Life at Wood Oaks currently is all about transition. They are two-thirds of the way through transitioning the 8th grade to high school. There was a meeting last night for parents. Registration is starting at the high school. All day Friday the 8th graders will be going to the library to meet with their counselors on zoom. There was also a general overview of high school done a few weeks ago but this is an opportunity to answer more specific questions.
- The next step is to transition 5th graders from Shabonee to Wood Oaks. Historically, Dr. McElligott and Mrs. Beake have gone to Shabonee together, however they may do it over zoom this year. It's an opportunity to discuss the transition as well as talk about language and other electives.
- They just held the first chorus concert in three years last week at GBS which allowed everyone to spread out. The 4th and 5th graders from Shabonee were also able to sing some songs. It was wonderful to have that event. They've also just finished the building science fair. There are 14 students who presented their research and scientific process and papers to the judges. They've been working with Mr. Lucht. The regional science fair will be remote and as a result these students will now need to create videos. The state science fair is scheduled to be in person.
- There are also currently in the process of doing the Erin's Law presentation which is a sexual abuse awareness program. The social workers will be cycling through advisory classes to discuss the content with them.
- There's also the beginning of a new semester this week. This is the third quarter of the school year.
- Right now they are currently doing lunches by grade in order to help with distancing. They had to move some electives around to allow a better distribution of students as some sections had 60 students and others had 80. They made those changes and now everyone is able to eat lunch at the appropriate distance.
- Mrs. Klein just conducted auditions for Annie Jr. and there are 28 actors and actresses that will be starring. They are not currently sure on ticketing and seating details, but they do have a license to stream the performance. The performance will be after spring break. We could use Set Building & Design help. Mr. Greby used to do it until he retired. If you would be interested, or know someone, please have them send Dr. McElligott an email.
- They are now doing standardized testing. The second round of LRIA testing took place which takes the place of the Math STAR testing. They are now going to have a special schedule on January 27th that will allow for math testing in the morning. And on February 1st they will have

the reading test in their regular reading class. The special schedule on January 27th will also allow time for the students to take the school perception survey.

**Mrs. Beake, Wood Oaks Assistant Principal**

- Mrs. Beake is continuing to work on PBIS. They have ROAR drawings and appreciate the PTA contributing gifts and items that they can give to kids for winning. Lots of kids seem to do eRoars on the Friday right before the deadline knowing that someone will be drawn. There's also a Roar store online, they just recently added a mystery item which seems to be a popular item. They will just mail you a mystery item.
- They had a winter assembly the day before winter break. They did not do their normal assembly, but featured a Minute to Win It game and focused on school spirit. They are hoping to have an assembly for athletes before spring break if possible.

**Council Reports:**

**Emily Taylor, President**

- Sales Tax update on PTA Lunches
- no conversation yet about adding lunch days (not until covid slows down)
  - There is currently a sales tax debate that is ongoing. Right now we are charging sales tax on school lunches but we are not sure if that is necessary. Until we know for sure, we will continue to charge sales tax. At this time there is no point in adding further days of hot lunch, until we get back to normal seating arrangements we will need to keep hot lunch as is.
- Nominating Committee for Council - need 2 in addition to Emily and 1 alternate
  - We will need a nominating committee as we need a new president and Secretary of the PTA Council for next year. The nominating committee needs to be individuals, one from each School. Lynn Howard, Anna Harris, and Samantha Diamond all offered to be on the nominating committee.
- D27 2022 Race meeting 2/22 at 8pm at 3808 Bordeaux (Melinda Waddle's house) If covid still strong then a Zoom meeting. Please announce dates at schools meetings and include in newsletters
  - Please put on the calendar that there is a meeting to discuss the 2022 race that will be on February 22nd. This will be at Melina Waddle's house. They are starting to plan now because they are looking to get bigger sponsorships and need more time for paperwork processing. There will be a virtual option for this meeting.
- Need fundraising for D27 referendum??
  - The referendum will not be in May but will be in November therefore there is no need for fundraising at this time. Stay tuned.
- 2nd, 5th, & 8th grade group ordering for parties - one vendor=better price
  - Also just a reminder as the various schools are planning their second 5th and 8th grade parties to get the committee chairs together to see if they can negotiate a deal with the spirit wear vendor on the graduation shirts to get a discount.

- Question: when will hot lunch ordering be open for February? Emily will be speaking with Robin about it later and anticipates it will be within the next 5 days.

**Anna Harris**, Vice President

- Also a reminder that Wood Oaks is having a dine out tomorrow at El Famous Burrito in Wheeling. This is their first dine out of the year and 20% back proceeds would go back to the Wood Oak's PTA, please support them!

**Michelle Lebovitz**, Treasurer

- Outstanding 5k sponsorships - There are about five 5k sponsorships that have not paid, if you can follow up.

**Lynn Howard**, Secretary

- Approve November Meeting Minutes - The November Meeting Minutes were approved.

**PTA Council Committee Reports:**

**D27 5K Race** -Anna Harris & Melina Waddle

- 5K race work has begun - they are really going to be focusing on fundraising at this time and they would like to get it out as soon as possible. If you would like to mention in the PTA blogs see if anyone would like to help.

**Calendar** - Lisa Buckley

- Please keep sending her activities or events as they come up.

**Communications** - Anna Harris

- Just a reminder to the PTA presidents that the blog deadline is here for the week. Since she is not feeling well it would be helpful if you could get it to her as soon as possible today.

**Directory** – Lynn Howard

- We just ran the PTA membership process yesterday 1/18. There were 10 new memberships. We did note that 5 PTA memberships seemingly transferred to the name of the other parents in the household. Mr. Phillips explained that the problem was the ongoing registration process, the name would transfer if the family updated the primary contact in their household information.

**Hot Lunch** – Emily Taylor

- See update above.

**Environmental** - Adrienne Felder-Mittelman

- Adrienne has now gotten approval from all three schools for the Terracycle program. She has purchased some bins but is waiting to hear from Doug Heurich as we may be able to get a better bin for this particular program. She should have that information soon and then will get flyers to everyone to share.

**Club 27** -

- No update.

## **PTA School Reports:**

### **Hickory Point – Samantha Diamond and Kate Riggs**

- They just finished their annual coin collection for the book fair. They raised over \$1,600 over four days for Bernie's book bank. They will use that money to purchase books for Bernie's and Hickory Point will get Scholastic dollars for the purchases. The winning teachers will get certificates that can be spent at the book fair. The book fair will be held in February during conferences. As such it will not be a kid shop book fair but instead will be a parent / family shop book fair. In order to manage the numbers, Sign Up Genius will be used to manage the number of shoppers.
- They've been able to cut back and now only need 3 lunch volunteers a day. They continue to help staff that. They have also added a kindergarten recess monitor, and that person is guaranteed to see their child. They have had an easy time finding volunteers for this so far.
- January 29th Hickory Point will be holding their poker run. This is not a fundraiser - it is just for fun. The winner gets \$500 and there's also a second and third-place prize. They're also getting ready for their Super Bowl soup collection for the Northfield Food Pantry where children are allowed to bring cans of soup to vote for their favorite team to win the Super Bowl.
- They've had some new families have started in this past month and they've made sure that they've all received baskets.
- They also had a big December raffle and donut pick up and they were able to raise over \$2,500.
- They are planning a Teacher and Staff Extravaganza for the upcoming parent-teacher conference day.
- And the nominating committee has found three spots for next year they're going to be voting for in April.

### **Shabonee – Shaka Martin and Lynn Howard**

- Getting ready for the 22-23 school year and we've announced that we are looking for a new co-president, vice president and Treasurer. We've also announced that we are looking for a Nominating Committee to fill said positions.
- The Caring Dolphin committee made phone calls to new Shabonee families over winter break.
- Our next Family Fun Night will be a Disney Trivia Game and costume contest on Saturday 2/12 from 330-530p.
- We paid hot lunch taxes yesterday 1/18. All but 1 hot lunch vendor has been set up for online payment from the new Chase account (Potbelly likes a check still).
- The spirit wear committee is going to try something different and will be purchasing some Spiritwear that we plan to sell at the Spring family fun night and to incoming 3rd graders.
- We continue to support the school with lunch supervisors on Fridays.
- Our Room Parents are preparing for the last class party which will be on Monday 2/14.
- Announced the recycling initiative with Terracycle.

**Wood Oaks** – Debbie Salzer Rothschild and Rivka Daar

- Hot lunch is going well - Dr. McElligott, Mrs. Beake, Rivka and Deb have been at every single hot lunch to facilitate. Tomorrow will be challenging with the electives changing but they were able to make the schedule happen.
- The book fair they are looking into having a virtual only book fair - Andrea is working on it.
- The graduation party is a TBD event right now due to the current covid guidelines they will revisit in eight weeks.
- Karen is still working with Robin to change Wood Oaks PayPal status to 501c3 then they will go ahead and do the same with CheddarUp. They are getting ready to find a new co-president (as Deb is graduating out of the district unfortunately) and a new Treasurer.
- Anna is working hard on the Famous Burrito fundraiser in Wheeling this week. They are also looking into a virtual escape room event. And a Wolves Hockey event. They will have more dine outs coming.

**New Business:**

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 am.

**Attendees:** Dr. Deiter, Dr. Fournier, Dr Rio, Dr. McElligott, Mrs. Beake, Emily Taylor, Anna Harris, Michelle Lebovitz, Adrienne Felder-Mittelman, Debbie Salzer Rothschild, Rivka Daar, Shaka Martin, Sam Diamond, Kate Riggs, Lisa Buckley, and Lynn Howard