



Jefferson PTA General Meeting Agenda Sept 14th, 2021

WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER – at 7:36 Meghan Hood

Amanda French, Jodi Kushik, Kerri Timmerwilke, Candace Corner, Andrew Philipi, Phil Fernandez, Jen, Jayson, Ioana Fernandez, Chris Hames, Talko, Chirag Patel, Leeder Hua, Andrada, Cathy Dykes, Meghan Hood, Kara Johnson, Christina Podraza, Sara Roberts, Elizabeth Serrata, Tom Price, Meghan LaResche, Erin Howe, Cynthia Mares, Colleen Kay, Val King, Erica

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

[August Meeting Minutes](#) - Sara Roberts gave summary
[Motion to approve Cathy Dykes, seconded by Kara Johnson](#)

Principal's Report: Dr. Podraza

- Tiger Buddies kicked off 9/13 - kids in all grade levels are in all groups.
- Committee at Jefferson to plan; Noticing some behaviors that differ from past years; SEL will be the focus
- Dr. Podraza - SEL, reading goal, math goal
- Lunchroom - hiring one more person, hoping to have another
- Running Club - it has been going great since it kicked off 9/8
- Parent University nights - parents can come and learn about topics. Upcoming: Ms. Cusack - doing a workshop on positive reinforcement.
- COVID update -
 - As of Thursday - all virtual teachers will be hired
 - Students can participate if they are quarantining b/c they were exposed (24 hrs after child goes home)
 - Teacher will gather information and send to virtual teacher
 - IEP: live services via zoom w/ their provider
 - IDPH: will be the people communicating with parents if exposure happens out of school. They will send a letter with a date that a return is possible.
 - Close contact is only considered during time in the lunchroom or on the bus. Children who wear masks all day are not considered a close contact.
 - Non-close contact letter could be for your child's classroom
 - The District Dashboard is updated weekly.
 - Non-close contact letters - from Dr. Podraza; close-contact will be sent home from the nurse.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Elizabeth Serrata - Art

- K-2: using Seesaw, 3-5: Seesaw and Google Classroom
- Focus is SEL learning, collaboration, and working together.
- Upcoming: Square One fundraiser, Winter Carnival projects, Math Book Cover contest, Arts Fest, Arts Fest, Art Show
- Art Club: Wed - starting 9/29; for 3rd grade. Right now only for 3rd grade but exploring adding add'l grade levels.

Tom Price - Physical Education

- Allowed to do small group activities this year
- Bring gym shoes to class - need closed toe and with a rubber sole.
- Resuming intramurals for 4th and 5th grade. Soccer this fall and then basketball in spring.
Max: 24 students
- Outdoor ed has been moved to 5th grade. Dates: March 8th/9th
- All gym equipment gets sanitized daily.

Erin Howe - Library

- Consider volunteering for reshelving books (over 1000 books checked out the first week!)
- Each class gets 60 mins.
- Need to be responsible digital citizens
- Seesaw - K-2; Google Classroom 3-5
- Books checked out: K: 1 book; 1st: 2 books; 2/3rd: 3 books; 4/5th: 4 books
- Book Fair - next week

Meghan LaResch - Music

- Giving Tree in December
- K - learning beats; 3rd grade - recorder; 4th - composer; 5th grade musical is in spring
- Jefferson's singers - 4th/5th grade
- Band/Orchestra - sign-up past but if you need to sign up your student
- 5th grade - Tuesday: 3:30 - 4:30; 4th grade: Thursday 3:30 - 4:30
- KPop Club - 5th Grade; 3-4 after school on Fridays

Jodi Kushik-Sinclair and Michael Symber

- Fine Arts School on York and South Street
- They shared they would like to support any school needs at Jefferson
- They take a teaching approach to art instruction including STEM techniques and Gardner's multiple intelligences.
- Cathy to reach out about ways we could partner in the future.

PTA BOARD REPORTS

Membership - Gina Lascody

- 250 members to-date (17 staff members also joined)

Programs - Cynthia Mares

- Fall programs are underway - running club, Junior Great Books, Room Parents
- If anyone is interested in supervising chess club we still need a volunteer

Events - Colleen Kay

- Event planning is underway for:
 - Jefferson Fun Run
 - Science Olympiad
- Still need a social chair; or if you have an idea reach out and PTA can help plan

Fundraising

- Book Fair - Ioana presented information
 - Teacher preview on Monday
 - Easiest way to shop is through e-Wallet (connected to your credit card.) You can set a limit for kids.
 - Volunteers are needed (Tuesday and Wednesday). Sign up is available tomorrow

- PTA purchases one book for each student during classroom visit.
- Trolley - currently everyone on the waitlist has been accommodated. There may be some cancellations in upcoming weeks so if you would like to attend put your name on waitlist
- Trivia Night - Friday 11/5
 - Will be held at the Knights of Columbus
 - Hollywood Themed
 - Silent Auction
 - Registration will come out this week or next
- Eat and Earns:
 - Kona Ice (TBD on totals made) and Mcdonald's (made \$350)
 - Portillo's - 10/4
 - November - football sunday at HB Jones (people will need to show the flyer that day)
- Square One Art - order forms will likely come out 11/8.

Communication - Val King

- Tiger Beat Newsletter - please get information by Tuesday at noon
- For any social media posts please give information and graphics needed.

Treasurer's Report Kara Johnson

- \$8,300 in membership dues (goal of \$7,900)
- Balance Sheet - \$36K

President's Report & Correspondence – Meghan Hood

- Major fundraising goals is to refresh the teachers lounge
 - Debbie Weisz is going to do the design work.
- PTA Council Scholarship Fund
 - 10, \$1K scholarships are given each year.
 - In lieu of event - \$27K was donated by the 50th Reunion for Class of 1970 due to the reunion being cancelled
 - Eat and Earn for District - McDonalds 10/12
 - Lunch/Dinner opportunity
- REACH - new curriculum director
 - Changing the admission and appeal process.
 - MAP testing 3x/year - extra data points
 - There is a Facebook group for elementary school and middle school where additional information is posted.

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 9:05

Motion - by Kara Johnson, Cathy Dykes to second the motion

Upcoming Dates

- Oct 12th, 7pm - in person (Ms. Cusack to present)