

**Longfellow Parent Association Meeting
September 12, 2017
Longfellow School Library**

Board Present: Marisa Bueno, Jennifer Lammers, Darylee Zech, Tanya Smith, Stephanie McDowell
Staff Present: Patrick McClellan

Introductions from Board members, staff, guests and parents present.

Principal Update, Mr. Partrick McClellan:

- This year, Longfellow is enjoying zero teacher turnover with the exception of a couple of para assistants and the new Thrive Liaison. "This helps us (the staff) feel like we are 3 months into the school year rather than 3 weeks."
- The teachers expressed they felt a great, positive turnout at Parent Night. Keep spreading the positivity!
- Longfellow is at capacity or a little over.
- Only 50 All-In-One forms left to go! Parents need to complete these or their kids can't do field trips, etc. The front office (Karen) will sit down with them if they need help. Reminder: You have to do one per child. (MT statute won't allow schools to take last year's info.)
- Annual Assessments:
 - Star (reading and math): 3 times per year 1st – 5th grade. Helps see if some kids need help. Not a state assessment. Teachers can do it anytime within a window so they can work with classroom schedules. There was some confusion about when those were done.

Treasurer Report, Jennifer Lammers, LPA Treasurer:

- \$50 checks are going to teachers now. These are extra help with purchasing supplies they didn't get in the beginning of the year.
- \$300 checks going to teachers throughout the year for additional purchase. They provide receipts for these.
- Run for Longfellow has a goal to raise \$50/student.
- With that goal, LPA would raise \$16,000 which would allow LPA to do teacher proposals this fall.
- Teacher proposals are individual requests from each teacher and then the teachers all vote on which things they think should be funded. So, the teachers pick what gets funded.
 - LPA's goal is to fund a fall round of teacher proposals and a spring round of teacher proposals. LPA would like to increase the budget to fully fund these 2 rounds rather than 1/2 funding in the fall and 1/2 funding in the spring. Each round costs about \$3000.
 - Parents mentioned that they would like to see the proposals so they know what is being funded. Would be good to see this before the Run for Longfellow, but they recognize this might be difficult. Maybe highlights would help.
- LPA has expanded the budget to include Friday Coffees and Community Lynx Nights.
- Reminder that if parents buy something for the classroom, they can get a tax write-off. This helps LPA keep track of the parent support for the school. The parents still process the donation through the teacher, but the teacher will just provide a receipt to the parent.

LPA Update, Marisa Bueno, LPA Chair:

- When we have a great LPA team, we are able to do all the great things we have been talking about. If parents have a skill or just want to get involved, please reach out to LPA.
- LPA has a goal of reaching out to the community and connecting the school/teachers/students/parents.
- Events:
 - Sept 22, Pep Rally – Casey (BHS XC coach) will lead charge into the Run for Longfellow.
 - Teacher proposals should be presented somehow. Since current teacher proposals won't be ready, we can highlight past funded proposals.
 - Sept 28, Parent Lynx Night – Resources for your children.
 - October 6, Run for Longfellow – Students will be involved in fundraising for their class.
 - MLK Day, Parent Lynx night – Ideas? Proposed Ruby Bridges movie followed by Q&A.
- LPA acts as pass through for other programs. So, when parents write a check for field trips, choir, language, remember this isn't income for LPA. Just money that LPA is accepting on behalf of the school which isn't capable of processing this income/expense through the BSD.

Artworks Update, Alyssa Smith, Artworks Co-Chair:

- Artworks is separate from LPA and the BSD budget.
- Artworks needs a co-chair.
- Artworks funds all the art education at the school. Theatre, music, illustration, painting, etc.
- Artworks brings in \$30,000 per year.

Meeting Closing:

- This meeting was focused on updates.
- Meetings throughout the year will provide education and school information.
- If parents have requests for what should be covered, please contact the LPA.

Minutes by Stephanie McDowell, Secretary.