

Hoover PTA Meeting
Wednesday, October 13, 2021

Agenda

PRESENT: Becki Campanaro (President), Nicole Giehl (Second Vice Pres), Andrea Adams (Vice Pres), Abby Chitester (Historian), Jennifer Boal, Olivia Frye, Tara Lavy, Shayna Bodi, Sara Lueders, Laura Signorelli

VIRTUAL ATTENDEES: Cristina Battaglia, Heather Geisler, Aaron Miller, Sara Colosimo, Jackie Kramer, Courtney Brouse, Ashley Hauck, Szilard Bodi, Charlotte Becker

Start Time: 7:05pm / Technical Issues --- official start time 7:12pm

- I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance Becki Campanaro

- II. Approval of Minutes Becki Campanaro
Approved by Becki Campanaro

- III. Correspondence Jennifer Boal
Nothing to report on today

- IV. Executive Committee Reports
 - a. President Becki Campanaro
We had a meeting on October 6 with the PTA Council, Dr. Steinhauer, and other school district members. Dr. Steinhauer mentioned that our SAT & ACT scores are higher than before, and Mt. Lebo has more merit finalists than ever before. This data shows that secondary scores are doing well.
Nov. 2nd (tentative vaccine clinic) – for the 5-11 year old age range – if the vaccine is approved.
Pool testing is available with the district – rolling sign ups are occurring and weekly communication will be coming from the district. Dr. Davis went through the details of the Pool testing. If you want more information, contact Becki. All tests were negative from last weeks' testing.
Threat to high school was addressed. The district did a post-analysis and will be continuing in ongoing conversations about how to handle future crises as a situation. Becki felt very comfortable about the response.
Go Zone discussion – PTA requested more police presence at the go zone – police are currently understaffed, but it has been requested to have as much police presence as possible especially with the elementary schools.

b. Treasurer Xiang Hao

Last email blast garnished 30 new members to the PTA

c. 2nd Vice President Dr. Nicci Giehll

Thank you to our Hoover PTA for support for special events this year so far – which include Kindergarten Coffee & Kleenex (hosted outdoors). It was nice to have the opportunity to welcome new families in and tell them about PTA membership. Hoover did not hold Fall Family night; rather, our PTA hosted grade-level ice cream socials at the playground (families were invited to attend) – this gave families the opportunity to meet classroom kiddos and other parents. Hoover Picture Day went off very well despite the weather. 1st grade Apple Day – family volunteers helped to make the event successful. Volunteers are limited due to COVID – but we are planning to hold events as “normal,” as possible. 2nd graders went on a walking tour field trip – in 2nd grade curriculum – students learn about their community. Students got to go to the MT. Lebanon historical organization who hosted the students, as well as the opportunity to go to the Police Dept for a safety day. PTA sponsored new recess equipment, and Dr. Giehll was able to procure that equipment recently. Hoover Happenings: in the midst of Hoover safety week (a 3-year tradition) – designated week in October that covers a topic per day regarding safety protocols for their classroom. Today was dedicated to Go Zone and Walking – Dr. Giehll and Mrs. Gamble held “mini-assemblies” to discuss the protocols for these areas and safer practices moving forward. The Go Zone continues to be an area of concern (from admin/families) – phone calls have been made to police during dismissal, especially the double parking on Bower Hill Rd. Families should not double park, but rather make one of the two loops for safety. Please do not worry about your child waiting for you – Dr. Giehll/Mrs. Gamble discussed with students that it’s okay if parents have to loop around. A Hoover staff will not leave students until all students are picked up for the day. Scenario-based safety protocols will occur over the next week. Focusing on “repetition vs. realism” to ensure the students are comfortable with the protocols given whichever scenario is presented. Tuesday @ 9am – no entrance/exit during the safety drill. Read-a-thon starts Friday, October 15 – Oct 29th. Halloween parties – October 29. End of 1st 9 weeks – October 29th. Pool testing – email went out today again for rolling enrollment. At Hoover, our pool testing day is Monday @ 8:15am. 5 students are placed into a vial. If the vial is positive, students will be given a rapid test to determine “who” among the pool is positive to create further protocols. Partnership with Dept of Education who provides nursing staff – kiddos are doing great with the self-swab. Hoover turnout for pool testing is about 12-14% of students. Becki noted that Dr. Davis did discuss the pool testing and the numbers of people tested. Questions – feel free to talk to Dr. Giehll. Tests are picked up the day of – and results are expected by the next day. Monday – pool test; Wednesday – rapid testing. Becki noted that Dr. Davis explained that if a “pool is positive” – the families will be contacted to keep kiddos at home until the kids within the pool are tested

and cleared to return to school. Goal – to not bring potentially positive students into the building. Dr. Davis – said “no news, means good news.”

V. Committee Reports

Election – Megan Criswell decided to not participate as secretary; Jennifer Boal ran unopposed as secretary. Nominated into the position.

We will need a nominating committee for next year’s available positions – President and Vice President. Olivia Frye, Heather Geisler, and Shayna Bodi have volunteered to be part of the nominating committee.

Budget – Xiang introduced the 2021-2022 budget – no major changes. We do have some extra funds this year, but we are able to now fund activities (such as field trips, activities, etc) that we were unable to do last year.

Abby – kids looked forward to icecream day in the past – could the PTA do something such as supply icecream one day – “treat day.” Dr. Giehll is going to look into the regulations for lunch protocols.

Becki – do we have to designate the funds, or can they be “reserved” for a miscellaneous fund? Heather G. – said in past years we used a “special programs/projects” category for the extra non-budgeted projects/programs.

Cristina – Are we allowed to have people into the school? Dr. Giehll – we need to be aware of group sizes. Grade-level assemblies can happen; but, there is not enough space to have the full school. Cristina will reach out to the Cultural Trust and determine if there are any opportunities for their participation. Kiddos enjoyed the performances. Dr. Giehll noted that the Pgh Symphony has virtual events. She noted that maybe the Cultural Trust may have virtual events.

Heather – requested an extra \$50 into the talent show budget due to needing a new company needed for audio equipment/supplies. Heather would like to increase the budget to \$275.

Draft Budget: Increased \$50 for the Talent Show Budget Line --- \$275

Place additional surplus under Special Programs/Projects

otherwise budget stays as is

Motion to approve – Cristina B; 2nd – Abby Chitester; 0 Opposed

Committee Chairs – Abby has been organizing the list of volunteers for various committees. Lots of new volunteers came in from the Google survey sent out by Dr. Giehll – which is great. Abby is connecting with Cristina on historical events to get more information.

5th Grade Committee – Abby connected about the 5th grade committee – she has chairs for the committee and yearbook confirmed.

Bake Sale - Lots of interest in the Fall Bake Sale; Abby is looking for a Spring Chair. Abby is creating a “Signup Genius” to find out bakers for the sale.

Third Grade in the Park – Olivia emailed regarding this event. May 16th (Hoover) – Olivia

will chair the event this year. We will need a handful of volunteers from 3rd grade classrooms. We

Spring Family Night – Olivia is chairing this event for Spring 2022 only. We have several volunteers who have offered to work on the event. Hoping to fill the position for future years.

Food Bank – in coordination with Talent Show – assuming we're allowed to have the talent show. Heather Geisler & Jessica Edelsen are the chairs. Dr. Shaw approved the use of the Talent Show dates. Auditorium @ Jefferson is secured and Heather is coordinating that event.

Holiday Gift Shop – Tara & Cristina Battaglia are the chairs for this event. We are going to be changing the holiday shop to accommodate Hanukkah – the holiday shop will take place in November. Holiday Shop will be changed due to COVID protocols. They will be sending information in the e-blast, as well as a note to each family.

Kindergarten Committee – will be combined with the Hospitality committee.

Only other positions needing to be filled – an additional volunteer for Field Day.

HR Coordinator – Jenn Boal - all parent positions are all filled. Thank you to the volunteers.

2 people interested in Technology committee – Jamie Freeman has been handling membership and membership toolkit. Jamie has graciously volunteered to keep this position even though she does not have a child in Hoover.

Juvenile Committee Chair – is this filled? Could this position help with the Go Zone? Olivia mentioned that this role could be more specific to safety protocols with the Go Zone. Becki mentioned the role is not really defined, so it could be crafted to what makes sense.

Melinda Petrich – Spelling Bee Chair – she is interested in chairing the Spelling Bee and hosting it this year. 4th & 5th grade participation – looking for a co-chair as Melinda's child is in 5th grade this year. Spelling Bee is usually in February – typically Melinda holds a Spelling Bee Lunch Club for practicing. Scripps provides a preparation packet – HR teachers host HR Bees to determine who participates in the Spelling Bee.

VI. Open Topics for Discussion

Olivia Frye – Plant Sale – What is the date we want to secure for the plant sale? Olivia will work determining a date in May.

Jenn Boal – Ditch concerns – parents concerned should reach out to Dr. Giehl

Tara Lavy – Can kids play on the playground after school @ 3:30pm. Dr. Giehl - yes.

Shayna Bodi – Could we create a Gardening program – where kids can learn how to

plant/grow food. Dr. Giehll – resources are spread thin, but she will think about how we can do it. Shayna will put together a plan, and submit it to Dr. Giehll.

Olivia – Anything that the PTA can do to support the teachers? Dr. Giehll will reach out to the teachers to see if they need anything. Mostly, she believes that continued support and kindness are likely the most important details.

Andrea – can we use some of the surplus to give the teacher's a "boost" earlier in the year beyond Teacher Appreciation Day? Becki: Yes, we should do something.

Becki – Jefferson Middle School PTA created a "Teacher Loves" spreadsheet which provides information on teacher preferences which can be used as gift suggestions or special treats (Jenn Boal to help coordinate the list with the teachers)

VII. Adjournment at 8:23pm

Motion to adjourn: Andrea Anderson; Second – Olivia Frye