



**September 8, 2020**  
**PTO Board Meeting**  
**6:00pm**  
**Zoom**

**Call to order: 6: pm**

Meeting called to order by PTO President, Ken Sorey at 6:04 pm. **17** members present. Quorum is 4. Quorum is met.

**Mr. Avent update**

- The school has given out 240 chromebooks and 50 hotspots. We should get 90 chromebooks back as the Oakland United computers are coming in.
- No updates on in-person classes yet.
- Staff morale is low. He is worried about teachers and leadership team.
  - They have too much on their plates. Always something coming up with technology. Balancing family with teaching.
  - Ken: we need to ramp up tech support
  - Appreciation needed from PTO.
  - How to get message out to other parents to give support to teachers?
    - Use eBulletin to send a message?
  - Mr. Runge: Re-inventing the wheel every day, this experience is no way representative of the normal class. No way to bounce ideas off each other.
  - Kimberly: Team building activities on calls, connect because unable to see each other. Game night, etc.
  - Naomi: Can Teacher Buddies reach out to families in class?
    - Early stages of connecting teachers and buddies, not enough people for teachers at the moment. No directory.
- Loryn: Is there a privacy issue with PTO getting access to parent emails?
- **Action item:** Regroup on email to support the teachers. Perhaps create fun things for parent and teachers to interact.
- After school program: Can the PTO bridge a gap with Mr. Latimore?
  - After school funding taken away this year—not enough free and reduced lunch students.
  - Plan for Latimore was to have him be a Community School Coordinator.
  - Mr. Avent has some money coming in, but there is delay, don't want to lose him.

- Salesforce donation to pay the district for a teacher, free up district money to hire Latimore.
- PTO could possibly pay him to a certain date and then school could take over. Or PTO could donate money to school?
  - Mr. Avent will look into actual number. But can adjust time and end date to meet number.
  - Naomi thinks this would be the better way to do this, no liability. We can't pay him directly.
- **Motion to approve \$10,000 (half of the \$\$ allocated) to support Mr. Latimore as a bridge to keep him in place. Ken, Naomi seconded. All approve.**

### Open board positions

- Vote on New Additions
  - Parliamentarian – Daria Dimitroff
  - Auditor – Elizabeth Taylor (Ken looking for co-auditor)
  - **Motion to approve: Ken, Katherine second. All Approved.**

Welcome: Shawna Dark (Tech volunteer committee), Caitlin Murphy (Toro Store) Heather Ladov (Teacher Buddies), and Myesha Mebane (Site Council)

### Parent Tech Group

- Met for the first time last week.
  - Working on survey for teachers, what tech and training needs. Tech buddy—what should that look like?
  - Survey for kids, how are things going, tech needs, what help do they need.
- Document for parents to list what they are struggling with.
- Meeting again tomorrow to finalize surveys and will have more info.

### Parent Support Events — repurposing general meetings

- What should these look like? Do we need a committee?
- General meeting to just express concerns, what they are needing?
  - Oakland Tech PTO prez has hosted some general Q&A sessions.
  - Push back general meeting by one week. Ken will reach out for ideas for breakout rooms. Naomi suggest just for chat, parents good at facilitating conversations? Parent who helped their kid get organized.
- Need to decide on HS Information Night (October)
  - Raine coordinating meeting tomorrow night with people who expressed interest in speaker series/parent education. Ideas and development to come.
  - Reach out to Oakland Tech, O High, Skyline, maybe Life Academy. Ken may need

help organizing and keeping everyone on time.

### **Monetary support for Toro parents in need — new committee?**

- Informal request from a teacher or two about families who are really struggling to make ends meet.
- What is the most appropriate way to help these families. PTO can't fund directly.
- Heather has been doing this for Joaquin Miller since spring. Email address that people can donate to, people can email to request funding from that account.
  - Will this be taken advantage of? Dunia suggests asking people to bring the bills, etc., to show need.
  - Naomi: None can go through the PTO bank account. Only supposed to spend money for educational purposes.
  - School has a debit card that can be used to pay bill.
  - Last year, Salesforce played that role, via Cost team. Not specific needs. Gave out close to \$4,000.
- Create a small committee to work on this and do it fast as need is now. Perhaps raise money and give to school. School Cost team can cut checks. PTO can help identify.
  - Committee to review requests and satisfy as many as poss with funds. Establish criteria for distribution.
- **Action item:** Work with Lauren and Raine to identify people who would be good for committee. Dunia will be on committee.
- Lauren is going to be grouping the response to volunteer support form and will share with appropriate people.

### **Teacher Buddies update**

- Low on recruitment. Need to bring in some more people.
- Message to 6<sup>th</sup> grade families that different from room parent.

### **Fundraising update and plan**

- Off to good start: \$6-7k with donation, plus some are recurring.
- Virtual auction of cutting boards.
- Loryn going to virtual fundraising class.

### **Prop 15 Schools and Communities First**

- PTO gathered signatures to get this on ballot. Think of strategy in purview to support it.
- Group of parents? Just put info out?
- Ken can push out information? Send Ken any ideas.
- Breakout room at general meeting.

### **Schedule for Upcoming Meetings**

- Next Board meeting is October 7, 6pm.

### **Meeting adjourned: 7:04pm**

#### **Board Members Present:**

Ken Sorey – President  
Loryn Hudson – VP Fundraising  
Lauren Addicott – VP Volunteer Coordinator  
Raine Dougan – VP Volunteer Coordinator  
Heather Ladov – VP Campus Culture (Teacher Buddies)  
Katherine Falk – VP Technology  
Dunia Wilder – VP Academic Enhancement  
Bobbi Babineau-Lounds – VP Facilities  
Cynthia Lusk – VP Outreach and Membership  
Naomi Levy - Treasurer  
Trudy Brown – Recording Secretary  
Kimberly Delaney – Financial Secretary  
Daria Dimitrioff – Parliamentarian  
Elizabeth Taylor – Auditor  
Shawna Dark – Teacher Technology Support

Darren Avent – Principal  
Eric Runge – Faculty Representative

Minutes prepared by: Trudy Brown