

May 15, 2017

Present:

Neha Lang, Marjorie Bequette, Becky Pedersen, Melissa Lamm, Heather Allison, Dan Sheehan, Sarah Murphy, Kerry Furtney, Tiffany Dreher, Christine Melchert, Jen Noice, Sue Tomczak, Jessica MacDonald, Sarah Anderson, Kathryn Wegner, Ben Lang

Review Highlights of April Meeting Minutes - Approval Minutes.

Work in partnership with the Office of Equity and Inclusion is being discussed to plan a workshop or event around the theme of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. They suggested working this event into the SCIP (School Continuation Improvement Plan), so they would be able to help us within our official budget. Ms Pedersen will look into this. They are also suggesting an event that will bring together teachers and parents.

Committees Overview

a. Brief Review of Committee Reports.

There are open positions and new volunteers are welcomed.

b. PTO/FOG Open Positions

- Equity & Inclusion Chairs - 2 Positions
- Family Involvement Day
- Lost and Found
- Talent Show/Open Mic Night Coordinator
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Website Co-Chairs - 1 Positions
- Yearbook - 2- 5 Positions (There has been a request to have parents create the Yearbook next year.)
- Friends of Groveland ~ Co-Chair
- Friends of Groveland ~ Revenue Treasurer (Deposits)
- Apex Fun Run ~ Co-Chair
- Direct Drive
- Fall Fundraiser- Carnival/Festival - Chairs - 4 Positions
- Groveland Gathering Coordinator Chairs - 2 Positions

c. Open Mic Night - Tues. May 23rd (K-2) and Tues. May 30th (3-5) ■

We Need Volunteers. Please sign up: <http://signup.com/go/mrDiPLh>

d. Spirit Wear Sale is going on right now

- Buy Online at: <http://tiny.cc/GPEspringspirit>

Promote our school with your very own yard by purchasing and displaying our new Groveland Yard Signs. Help us show off our school pride and be more visible in our community so our neighbors know how many of us choose Groveland for our children.

FOG (Friends of Groveland) - Fundraising Report

New fundraising event -- festival or carnival instead of CG. Lots of response to the initial email! The committee will work together to create an event. They will also figure out timing -- fall and spring both have advantages. This will be an inclusive, all-school event and will also raise funds for the school. If anyone else is interested, please contact Christine Melchert at cmelchert@gmail.com

Groveland Gatherings have been associated with Celebrate Groveland in the past; we would like to continue these events with two new positions. Groveland Gathering Chair and a Co-Chair are needed to solicit, organize, and promote these events.

The Apex Fun Run, Book Fair, and Direct Drive will continue next year.

News and Events

- a. Volunteer Breakfast 9:30am Wednesday, May 17th in the Library
- b. Track and Field Days Thursday and Friday, May 24th and 25th to Volunteer go to:
<https://signup.com/client/invitation/6775657374/1868094/false#!1868094/false/false>
Also you can just show up -- there are always opportunities to participate.
- c. Groveland Family Picnic 6:00 p.m. Thursday, June 1st
Look for volunteer opportunities
- d. SPPS Board Meeting (Public Comment Period) -Tuesday, May 16th
 - i. Information: <http://www.spps.org/Domain/10382>
- e. Committee of the Board Meetings - Tuesday, June 13th

Principal's Report - Rebecca Pedersen

- a. 2017-18 Revised Budget Overview
- b. Enrollment/Classes for 2017-18
- c. Custodial Office Relocation

Board will vote on June 20th. Up until then, it's always preliminary information.

The proposed budget from Groveland was due to SPPS on April 24th.

Becky gets an initial budget with only some areas for adjustment.

Initial budget from SPPS was \$2,524,458. That's staffing -- teachers and support staff. Other aspects are covered by district in other budgets.

Becky submits the budget and explains the implications back to the district.

The budget included loss of 1 K teacher, 1 additional classroom teacher. Also the PT music position (which was funded on a one time basis this year), the behavioral specialist, and 0.07 of a teacher. The budget is based on 471 students, in line with the district projections.

SPPS responded by reinserting the 0.07 teacher and the behavioral specialist into the budget. So the Groveland budget is now \$2,592,837.

This money goes to:

\$2.517MM are staff.

\$130K in Title I funding (higher than last year). This is the year where we apply to move from targeted assist to school-wide support which may provide a bit more flexibility in the spending. The targeted assist this year was focused on T1 students specifically in just a few grades -- those students made good progress this year. The higher funds this coming year will fund a full (not partial) teacher position and two hourly staff (up to 14 hours per week). It will cover more students.

\$20K for "Extra Curricular" which covers special kinds of staff costs: School Patrol supervision, hourly positions to provide for cafeteria student supervision duty and an hourly testing coordinator who works with classes during standardized testing.

\$4K for substitute teachers to cover during staff development and other costs associated with staff development.

\$4K for iPads and technology -- allocated by the district to cover ongoing costs (replacement items, apps, etc).

This adds up to 26.38FTE positions paid by this budget.

Projected enrollment

Grade	Projected Enrollment (471)	District Class Size
PreK	40	20
K	75	22-26
1	69	22-27
2	71	22-27
3	71	22-27
4	77	25-29
5	67	25-29

If more students than projected are enrolled, additional funds might be forthcoming but it would depend how many students we were over. The district will likely close certain grades to new students (e.g., 4th grade) to make sure classes don't end up over the class size limit. The class size maximum in the current budget is looked at by Student Placement as students register in SPPS.

In order to give the readjustment to Groveland (and other schools), cuts are happening elsewhere. Also, SPPS has had a decreased enrollment of about 1000 students over the past few years. Enrollment depends on what SPPS offers and also on external factors.

This budget is based on a 1% increase from the Minnesota Legislature. If it's more, there will be additional rebudgeting across the district.

Staff totals:

- 1.0 PreK teacher
- .75 PreK TA (this is full time for a TA - 30 hours/week)
- 16 classroom K-5 teachers
- 3 specialists (gym, science, art)
- 1.0 clerk
- .5 clerk
- 1.0 Title I and 2 hourly Title 1
- .38 Library TA (half time)
- .5 counselor
- .25 field tech (tech support)
- 1.0 Behavioral specialist
- 1.0 principal

Additional staff at Groveland funded outside the Groveland budget

- 2.0 DCD teachers
- 1.0 LD teacher
- 1.0 Social worker (this includes special ed)
- 1.3 speech teachers
- 4.0 TA for DCD
- 1.5 TA for Special ed
- .6 Nurse
- 1.0 MLL (multilingual learner teacher)
- 0.5 MLL educational assistant

Discussion about when positions are not filled temporarily -- can funds be returned to Groveland?
 Unfortunately no because the funds go to the substitutes.

Number of classrooms

Grade	Sections	Projected #	District size	Actual projected size
Pre K	2 AM/PM	40	10:1 ratio (teacher/TA)	20
K	3	75	26	25 1
1	3	72	27	24
2	2.5	69	27	27-28
3	2.5	71	27	28-29
4	2.5	77	29	30-31
5	2.5	67	29	26-27

Highlighted areas are areas where numbers may be over.

Concerns expressed about current 3rd grade which is now in 3.5 classes which will be asked to go into 2.5 classes next year.

Staff changes will be as follows: The positions of Amy McDonald and Anna Clarke, kindergarten teacher have been cut. Regan Fox will take the Title 1 position and Ms. Schaefer will move to first grade. Marta Hanson will take the 2-3 split from Ms Murphy. Mr Gunsten will keep doing the 4-5 split. The library TA is returning to her previous FT position in another district so that position will be open, as will the Title 1 hourly positions and the lunch positions. Amy McDonald also did Lego League in the afterschool program and that coordinator position will be open. Gilbert Hale will continue to do Extended Day Learning. We are hoping to find people to take the Lego League Coordinator position. Parents may be coaches and/or coordinators for Lego Leagues.

Music enrichment -- parents made plans last year when we thought we were going to lose our music position; it would be good to revisit those discussions and options. If teachers can look at the funds available and make plans. Some parents have asked about having a half a music position and a half an art position instead of a full position of art. This is getting explored as well. As well as the possibility of cutting science instead of a music or art area.

PTO reports:

A group of parents are meeting: Well-Rounded student. Legislative requirement for two arts (of dance, theater, music, visual art) with no time requirements attached. There is a FOIA request out there going on now.

Advocating at the legislature is key. We as a state need to choose to support education.

Additional questions raised about the budget:

Are there things parents could do to support possible last minute challenges -- for instance, if next year's 4th grade is large - Could parents advocate to the Placement Office to keep 4th grade open? Are there other advocacy opportunities? Ms. Pedersen is also working on an additional meeting for the PTO President, Vice President and FOG chairs that might be an opportunity for parents to share concerns and hopes for Groveland with Student Placement.

Custodial Office relocation/Stage removal:

This building was built in 1921 and heated with coal, which was stored in a separate building (in our current parking lot). The custodian's office is in the remnant of that building but is no longer usable. The custodians need a space. Also there is a need for more storage for general furniture in the building such as student desks, tables and cafeteria recycling cans. The stage will be removed to provide storage and more room in the cafeteria for students to eat.

PTO's Environmental Thought: For summer picnics try wrapping your tasty sandwiches in reusable bags instead of ziplock bags or foil. Bonus: The bags can be used in the fall for school lunches. Here is a link to one we like to use:

https://www.amazon.com/Cloth-Sandwich-Bags-Yummi-Spunky/dp/B00NT9C660/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1494356404&sr=8-1&keywords=yummi+pouch+sandwich+bags

PTO's Community Building Challenge: Stay connected with your child's Groveland community during the summer. Plan play dates, hikes, and playground meet ups with your child's classroom friends.

THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO SERVED ON PTO AND FOG THIS YEAR. YOUR WORK IS A TREMENDOUSLY POSITIVE FORCE AT GROVELAND. YOU HELP STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY, BEAUTIFY OUR SCHOOL, SUPPORT OUR TEACHERS AND STAFF, PRESERVE OUR MEMORIES, AND PROVIDE OUR STUDENTS WITH FUN EVENTS AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS THAT HELP SHAPE THEM INTO THE FUN LOVING, WELL ROUNDED INDIVIDUALS THEY ARE MEANT TO BE.

This is our last PTO meeting of the year. See you all in the FALL.