

## PTO MINUTES 20sept2018

### 1. ATTENDEES (mingled)

Present: Charlotte Hanley-Jacobson, Christine Solum, Erin Jude, Hrithik Govardhan, Sarah Craig, Erin Kelsey, Jen Schlueter, Anni Murray-Rudegear, Kerry Furtney, Doug Czaplicki, Tasha Sams, Jennifer Thomas, Paul Nelson, Erin Wiegratz, Hallie Steele, Kubrom Araya, Jennifer Dobson, Jeanie Schaefer, Becky Pedersen, Robert Clarksen, Roopali Phadke, Sarah Milder, Marjorie Bequette, Kathryn Wegner, Wendy Anderson, Elizabeth Lake, Brandy Norman-Wieberger, Angie Feigal, Talia Sheldon-Desjardins, Heather Allison, Sarah Murphy, Karl Talcott

### 2. VOTES TO APPROVE...

A: MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES from MAY  
motioned: Marjori Bequette 2<sup>nd</sup>: ( ? ) MOTION PASSED

B. MOTION TO APPROVE 20september2018 AGENDA  
motioned: ( ? ) 2<sup>nd</sup>: ( ? ) MOTION PASSED

### 3. MEET THE GROVELAND SPECIALISTS!

INTRODUCTION by Sarah

MUSIC SPECIALIST, MS. THOMAS

- Commented on her efforts to “build a music program afresh”, as it’s been a couple of years
- Looking currently at kids’ potential, existing experience
- Standards to be adhered to are in the areas of Singing; Reading music; Playing Instruments

Q: Are there performances planned for this year?

A: Yes, stay tuned as she lines up the program

Q: How often do the specialist (such as the Music Specialist) teach the kids?

A: Every 3<sup>rd</sup> day

P.E. SPECIALIST, MS. DOBSON

-2<sup>nd</sup> year now

- Wants to emphasize Jump Rope for Heart (coming up in December)
- Also enthused about Field Day, which is in the spring
- A new SPPS partnership with the MN Wild (local NHL hockey franchise) will help us with some new hockey equipment

Q: Are there performances planned for this year?

A: There could be a Dance performance that will be team taught, similar to what we saw last year

#### **4. ESTABLISH MEETING NORMS (Sarah Murphy)**

-Per the bylaws, meetings follow the **Democratic Rules of Order**

*If you are curious about the Democratic Rules of Order, you can read more here:*

<http://www.democraticrules.com/tips.html>

-Sharing of norms that will guide PTO meetings throughout the year

*To read the Groveland PTO Bylaws:*

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ICgwA2r0ltzFbA-scNmf5XSWeKvGz2d-2BX6leeFj9U/edit?usp=sharing>

Q: Do we vote? What for?

Q: (Rob Clarksen) Can we see a shared excerpt of the above mentioned Rules?

A: (Sarah) Will look it up and share it electronically (via the Minutes [CLICK HERE](#) (<also hyperlink))

#### **5. WHAT IS GROVELAND PTO?**

PTO Supports Groveland with this motto in mind: Connect – Contribute - Advocate

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: (also see list on handout)

e.g. R24jan ARTIST AND WRITER's FAIR (Paul Nelson Gr. 5)

-This gallery-feel event held in the Gym (which alternates years with the SCIENCE FAIR) is always in need of volunteers for a multitude of tasks, especially those who are good with Art/Design/Layout

Q: Who's been involved in the past?

A: Groveland parents, those who are authors, artists, etc. ArtScraps has been (was it "may be"?) involved

CLASSROOM VILLAGES (Kathryn Wegner, who is looking for Co-Chairs, by the way!)

-Need C.V.C's (Classroom Villages Coordinators)

-She'll send out an email requesting help

-Examples of past CV events: Ice Skating Party, Holiday Celebration, Open Mic Nite, Class Potluck Nights, Service projects for teachers

TOUR GUIDES (Roopali Phadke – she and her husband need to step away this year)

-Upcoming need in Nov/Dec

-Challenges in recruiting from the immediate neighborhood, as Horace Mann and Highland elementary schools have had major building renovation and improvements recently.

#### **6. TREASURER's REPORT**

(Kerry Furtney, Talia Sheldon Desjardins)

- The organization is financially healthy, with a surplus to help with upcoming shortfalls.
- A couple of major changes: Grade Enrichment has been reduced by \$1K to \$1500 per Grade
- The Teacher Grant is at \$150/teacher, Specialist is at \$500

Q: Will the Enrichments be more Art-based this year since we lost the Art Teacher position?

A: Yes, that will be a focus

Q: Why is there a 40% drop in Enrichment funding?

A: The allocation was studied, there is still some leeway as many times the funds are not maxed out, leaving more for those who go over

Q: How is the Field Trip budget?

A: PTO makes up about 60% of the deficit in district funding in this area, teachers are limited to 3 field trips during the school year.

Q: What about using City buses as an alternative?

A: Liability and logistical problems with City bus use, most likely won't be approved.

## **7. FUNDRAISING CHAIRS REPORT**

(Charlotte Hanley-Jacobson)

- PTO Fundraising would like to continue fostering community
- Celebrate Groveland and the Carnival have been replaced
- Groveland Gatherings went well last year and we'll see more this year
- Direct Drive is upcoming
- Need ideas for more opportunities:
  - "Give To The Max" Day
  - Amazon Smile program (via Groveland updates)
  - Facebook Donate may be better as more funding is retained, no 6.9% fee
- Employer match is available, see letter (in Direct Drive email?)

## **8. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

(Becky Pederson, Groveland Park Principal)

### **STUDENT ENROLLMENT/NEW STAFF**

- Student numbers are very similar to last year now that the picture is clearing up, exact numbers upcoming-
- New Science Teacher, Music Teacher, Special Ed. Teacher, Counselor (shared with Horace Mann) Nurse has a Health Assistant, Special Needs Assistant, Cafeteria and Music EDL, Chris Watson, some adjustments and maybe upcoming changes in the Food Service staff due to health issues (Holly, Ray)

### **EXTENDED DAY LEARNING**

### **TITLE 1 INFORMATION**

ECOLAB GRANTS ("Ms. D"- Christine Solum)

- New this year, an E.D. grant

-All classes are learning the use of “regulation language”, expected vs. unexpected, and cues like “green/yellow/red”.

## **9. SPPS NEWS**

(Marjori Bequette)

-Major item is the upcoming referendum, attempting to partially restore the budget cuts of past cycles; handouts are going to be available to delve into details and look at numbers;

Q; Can we help, send out more voter registration cards?

A: (Becky Pederson) It's ok to send out info, just not editorializing on “how” to vote, which can be done outside of school time.

-Ward 3 Council Member Chris Tolbert will be at the October PTO meeting

Q: (Robert Clarksen) Will we be talking about the Post-It comments that have been gathered at this meeting:

A: (Sarah Murphy) The PTO Board will compile and survey the comments and introduce the subjects at a later date.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**