

District Parent Council Meeting Minutes **12/13/21**

Attendance:

Liz Luyendyk, Niki Robison, Sarah Allen, Jane Manfredi, Angie Tyrpak, Katie Cavanaugh, Kristin Arnett, Karen Shapiro, John Hood, Karissa Weight, Christine Parkhurst

Welcome and Introductions

Sarah Allen

- Introduced the new Cornell Principal Angie Tyrpak to the group.

Superintendent's Report

John Hood

- The second mascot survey came out, with 7,030 responses to the initial survey. 3,000-4,000 alumni responded. High school students met last week to determine the top 10 then went back out to the community for a second survey. The students are narrowing it to between 3-5 that will be presented to the district committee. Students will then vote on them (4-12th graders). The name is the first part of the two-phase process, the next stage is the logo (to be decided by Spring Break).
- A letter will be sent out from the transportation director: they are short drivers elsewhere but not in our district (because the director, mechanics, and the subs drive too). If we do have a shortage, the memo will share how routes would be affected (the route affected would alternate) and a robo call will go out. The memo asks that families think about a back up plan. Short staffing is not expected but we want to be pro-active.
- Town hall COVID spending- 50 attendees. Finance director went over requirements- spending needs to address student populations that were disproportionately affected.
- Bond Committee: listen and learn community sessions Wednesday, January 12 at 6 PM and Thursday January 13 at 7 PM via Zoom. Give all a chance to talk to our engineers: What do you like, what do you want changed about our school environment.
- Tonight to be announced at the school board meeting: school configuration survey: folks want stability, plan for future flexibility, but no change right now. This affects scope of the school bond.
- Security Presentation tonight at the school board meeting: Outline what is in place and what are other areas for future improvements. General comments/descriptions only.
- Robo calls for early release reminders will start soon and should be already on the school's calendars, as well as the newsletters.
- The agreement with the current 3rd party cleaning contractor is severed and will start with a new company in the spring. Current group helped to clean up grounds.
- Asking for community bond committee reps (wants a voice from each school)
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1SHslMXsac8UVaNpx5elJibdlS49YtGZP-WP6dMSzg3g/edit#gid=953497368>

Questions

- High school - There was a concern about HS students not having a way to get back to school after activities? Mr Hood suggested we might need to run another bus? High School PTO to also discuss further.
- A question was raised about what to do when letters sent to a specific school community are posted generally on social media. Mr Hood indicated we should encourage the original poster to ask their questions directly to the respective school's principal.
- Is the school allowed to search backpacks, etc.?
 - School policy allows searches of backpacks, lockers, and personal effects if there is a suspicion of risk. Law enforcement can do home visits with families to make sure guns are secured properly. Okemos works closely with Meridian Township to evaluate security issues.

Principal's Report

Angie Tyrpak – Cornell

- Cornell received OEF fund grant, put towards picture books, 45 diverse picture books on building character traits, for eg. inclusion and respect this month. Three different staff that had attended MSU worked on bringing this to fruition: needs assessment, proposal and implementation. Implemented end of November.
- Care Bears: ID students and families with needs at the holidays, and have students and staff donate those needs. 42 students will receive gifts and 18 families will receive food. One of the K teachers organized the trip to Meijer, all will be distributed this week.
- January: staff want to restart – Teachers Learning from Teachers. Rotationally, teachers observe other teachers and get feedback on engagement and small group instruction. Increases ability to learn and grow the practice. Opportunity to see things in action. Instructional Coach and 8 other staff organizing this to grow instructional practice.

Board of Education Report

Katie Cavanaugh

- Important board meeting tonight, update on security and improvements, bond will be affected.
- High School Student Reps (N=6): very active and giving inside scoop. Email account for students to send them info so they can bring to the meetings. Mascot; exciting, Superintendent evaluation- John did outstanding, high schools and renewed the contract for 2 years. Thank him personally with COVID and Oxford etc. that he is staying with us.
- New DEI director, Dr. Lara Slee as great energy. DEI updates in the newsletters.
- Next month they will select new officers to the board.
- DEI related: Preferred student name to be discussed tonight at the meeting (Mr Hood).

Presentation

Christine Parkhurst – Food Service Director

- Registered dietician, MSU grad and MS degree
- NSLP and NSB update- run the school lunch and breakfast, tried the seamless summer option- all students can receive free meals all year without charge. Still collecting meal applications. Helps with Title I and at risk funding
- September 2019- 3268 breakfasts, and 29,424 lunch, this year 4718 breakfasts, 35,492 lunch, 44% increase in school meals.
- Breakfast Meal Pattern: fruit 1 cup, grains 1-2, milk 1 cup, can sub 1 serving of meat/meat alt if 1 grain served, can offer veggies to sub for fruit.
- TO BE A FREE REIMBURSIBLE BREAKFAST- Students must take 3 different items to make a meal, must take at least ½ cup fruit or fruit juice to be a meal. High school hot breakfast (not at elementary).
 - Are they eating the fruit? HS not eating it. Student group how we can collect it? Composted or share table?
- Lunch Meal Pattern: fruit ½-1 cup, vegetables ¾-1 cup (dk gree, red/orange, legumes, starchy and other- celery cucumbers cauliflower), grains 1-2 servings,
- Portions by grade levels: K-5, 6-8, 9-12
- Meat/meat alternatives 1-2 oz min a day
- Milk 1 cup (no substitution unless dietary accommodation is filled out)
- Student must take ½ cup fruit/vegetable and then 2 other different items from food groups to be free. Aka hamburger, milk and fruit is a meal.
- Increased reimbursement amount.

Current Challenges: Supply chain and staffing shortages. Lack of raw ingredients and labor to move food. Trays an issue. Hard to get the main entrée.

HS lunch- more options. Traditional hamburger, cheeseburger, chicken sandwich, pizza (cheese and pepperoni), bosco sticks, corn dogs, mozzarella sticks, fresh and fast, chips cookies, other lines, salads and subs. One line not open around the world, can't open it due to staffing shortages. Different ethnic food, staffing issues means that it will be closed.

Vegetarian options, vegan, tacos- refried beans, plain alfredo with pasta, looking at other options.

Fun lunch-

Food satellite in to elementary, 2 entree hot and choice 2 is fun lunch.

Lunch count daily and send to office which we send to HS. Food sent in warming carts.

Fun lunch is the cold option- grain options cereal gold fish cheese its, protein items- string cheese, yogurt, added in chickpeas and hummus cups, 2 grain and 2 protein and go to food and vegetable line. Kids that arrive late can always get fun lunch, more staff would like more hot options to the elementary, in the past had a hot veggie option.

Will find out soon if this is going to be extended or not as far as free lunch, not known, USDA to let us know.

Building School Reports

OHS – Niki Robinson

- Jan 14, 15, 16 winter concerts- choir orchestra and band. Limited to 2 people per house and website for it.
- Academic learning center 2:45-3:45 PM
- When are finals? MLK? After they come back the second week.

Chippewa – Karen Shapiro and Kristin Arnett

- We are hosting a gift card purchase for teachers. You simply go to the site, select your teacher and number of gift cards. The parent group will purchase the gift cards that the teacher has already selected and your name will be attached to the gift card so that the teacher will know who sent it. The site is <https://signup.com/go/hbhOeAT>. The deadline is Tuesday December 14th at 3pm.
- Please consider supporting our CMS Parent Group through the Amazon Smiles program.
- The CMS Yearbook will be featuring baby pictures (up to 2 years of age) of 8th grade students. If you would like your picture included, please upload a clear photo of yourself to the Google Form linked below. Make sure you include your first and last name. Pictures MUST be submitted by December 17, 2021. There is a link in the Chipp Snips.
- Earn money for Chippewa Middle School Parent Group every time you shop with Kroger Community Rewards. Details on how to sign up are in Chipp Snips.
- Coach Matt Riggins is offering strength and conditioning sessions for our CMS students. I think it is on Tuesdays and Thursdays and runs from 5-7 pm. Please see Chipp Snips for more details.
- The Drama Club will be performing the fantastical, Frozen kingdom of Arendelle this winter! For more information you can email Chad DeKatch (chad.dekatch@okemosk12.net) or Claire Bellamy (claire.bellamy@okemosk12.net).
- Girls Basketball tryouts for 7th and 8th graders will begin January 4th through the 7th. Please check Chipp Snips for further details.
- Our next meeting is January 14, 2022 at 8:30 am.
- 1700 in gift cards bought so far, accept through tomorrow, with only 1500 last year.

Kinawa – Niki Robinson and Sarah Allen

- Cross country skis are being purchased to have available for use in the exploratory class as well as during P.E.
- Chipotle fundraiser will occur in February.

Cornell – Liz Luyendyk and Corinne Dyksen

- See Principal Tyrpak comments for Cornell
- New bowling program supported for our gym teachers, cost shared by all the PTO's

- One booklet school is purchased for March's reading list
- Clean up over Thanksgiving- but it snowed, so cancelled. Maybe one day soon small clean up of leaves.

OPM – Katie Cavanaugh and Niki Robinson

Bennett Woods – Jane Manfredi

- Bennett Woods family council has supported several teachers grant requests (books, light filters, organizers, book bins, games, bowling equipment) and is looking into options to support the school in other ways since we had such a successful fun run (more blacktop or new basketball nets).
- The school directory has been released.
- The classrooms have been involved in activities related to the new mascot search.
- We are excited about the new lunchroom tables!
- The parent volunteer form has been sent out and had a great response. Teachers will begin to reach out to approved volunteers soon to help with non-contact jobs initially.

Hiawatha – Carly Patel and Joy Magyar

- PTO was able to purchase a new washer and dryer set for the school.
- The elementary PTO's came together to cover the remaining cost of new bowling equipment that will be shared among the schools. The PE teachers received a grant for part of the cost and the rest was split among the PTOs.
- Chipotle night out was on 12/8 and was a successful fundraiser bringing in more than \$680.
- Culver's night out is scheduled for January 24th, 8-9pm at the Okemos Rd. location.
- Spirit week runs 12/13-12/17
- Next PTO meeting is scheduled for January 13th at 7pm

New Business

- Lost and Found at the schools – method for getting items back to families
 - Cornell- instructional coaches looks for names, return to classroom, lost and found across from lunch line.
 - Ideas? Roll carts outside so parents can see them? Ask the principals. Break is a nice time to do this. Reps ask principals. Pictures to be posted? Parent group to take this on? Concern about shopping through pictures. Principals can approve a small group to come in and help with lost and found. Reps ask about plan for lost and found, and share with the PTO.
- Technology Director to come back in to talk to us? Tom is back and we can get him to come in to talk. Sarah and Mr Hood to arrange.
- New computers on the agenda for the new bond or? That was the 2019 bond, 2 more years to buy them. New smart board monitors. Chip supply shortages.

Adjourn

Next Meeting: January 10, 2021 – OHS (online)

Email: Districtcouncil48864@gmail.com

Website: www.okemosk12.net – Families – District Parent Council