

**District Parent Council
Meeting minutes
Monday, May 17, 2021 9-11am
Online Zoom during Covid-19**

Welcome and introductions - Sarah Allen

Attendees - Liz Luyendyk, Katie Cavanaugh, Niki Robinson, Carly Patel, Karen Shapiro, John Hood, Sarah Allen, Nathan Schuster

Superintendent update - John Hood

- Thank you to the community for passing the millages!
- Upcoming changes
 - Masks - Every institution has different regulations, CDC says schools stay as is, MIhealth says no masks indoors if vaccinated, MIOSHA says staff/employees still masked.
 - Looking into how to handle outdoor masking first.

School Board Update - (No representative assigned this month)

Director introductions

Tom Isom - Director of Media and Technology

- From the Saginaw area
- Formerly with Central Michigan University
- New chromebooks and laptops for 2021-22
 - All computers to be returned at end of school year.
- Wifi coming in the stadium
- Looking to fill some other positions as well
- Interactive monitors and sound systems coming

Corrinne Karpinski - Transportation Director

- Director as of 2021
- Long time with the district
- Previously Operations Supervisor in Mason

Elizabeth Lentz - Director of Finance

- Here for 5 years, previously Ingham ISC for 19 years

Heather Pricco - Director of Special Education

- Also a parent of 3 students at OPS
- Understanding technical/legal compliance is a large portion of her job
- Director of Programming for Special Ed
- Section 504

Michael Wensel - Food Service Director

- New to OPS
- 11 years experience
- Heavily regulated, and compliance
- Professional chef by training

Directors introduced earlier in the year:

Mark Fargo - Director of Operations
Brian Fuller - Athletic Director

Presentation Topic - Overview of our equity timelines and process

Presenter - John Hood

- In the process of hiring 4 new principals, and have included the equity group during this screening process.
- Has created a list-serv from his contacts - postings sent to large group and has resulted in a very diverse group of candidates
- Survey has gone out for review of the plan and has had a 46% return. Data is being reviewed independently (Dr Flinner, Dr. Hall)
 - 5 focus groups to start -
 - African american,
 - spec ed,
 - eco disad,
 - pacific islander,
 - LGBTQIA
 - Taking to summer to review.
- Mascot conversation went to the board May 10.
 - Board will vote 5/24
 - \$430,000 to change mascots
 - Looking to get approval for posting and hiring for a position
- Looking to board for policy change to better report and handle concerns of DEI abuses.
- Board to use the summer to review all policies 'through the equity lens'.

Host School Update (no host school this month, typically meeting is at administration building in non-Covid times)

Building updates

OHS – Niki Robinson

- Important Dates
 - Disney's "High School Musical"-Virtual Performance
 - May 21 at 7:00 p.m.
 - May 22 at 2 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
 - Tickets can be purchased online at www.OKEMOSTHEATRE.com . Tickets price is \$5.44 per streaming device (includes a \$.44 cents processing fee). The show will be broadcast online at the above times only.
 - If you have any questions regarding tickets, please email us at ohs.theatre@okemosk12.net.
 - May 27, June 3, 7 and 10 - Meal Service Distribution Day
 - June 3 Athletic Physicals, OHS 5:30-8 in Wood Gym. \$25-check payable to Okemos Athletic Boosters.

- June 6 Congratulations to our OHS Class of 2021 Commencement in OHS Stadium, 1p.m.

Chippewa – *Kristin Arnett and Niki Robinson*

- Updates
 - Need to fill Parent Group spots - President and Treasurer
 - Tour for incoming 7th graders?
- Important Dates
 - Parent meeting May 20 9:00 AM
 - Join Zoom Meeting:
 - <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3326808705?pwd=dDlmdWdkNUFsSE1BTTY2akJzbXBDDz09>
 - Meeting ID: 332 680 8705
 - Passcode: 4d5y1Z

Kinawa – *Karen Shapiro*

- Updates
 - Online book fair through Scholastic ([LINK](#))
 - Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with online shopping: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/kinawa5-6school>
 - Science week with links and programming.
- Important Dates
 - May 25 6:30 PM - Parent meeting

Cornell – *Liz Luyendyk*

- Updates
 - Did Teacher Appreciation and had great feedback from the teachers.
- Important Dates
 - PTO meeting May 20

Bennett Woods – *Janet Philips and Nathan Schuster*

- No report

Hiawatha – *Carly Patel and Amy Burton*

- Updates
 - Teacher appreciation recap: the PTO provided tropical smoothies on Tuesday and MI Vegan food truck on Thursday. Feedback from teachers was awesome, they loved their treats!
- Important Dates
 - Landscaping cleanup: the PTO is organizing and volunteering landscape cleanup outside for the front of the school on June 4 & 6th.
 - Next virtual PTO meeting is May 24th at 7:00 pm.

New Business

- **New Co-Presidents for 2021-2022 – Liz Luyendyk and Karen Shapiro**
- **Secretary – Nathan Schuster**

Action Items/Follow up needed -

- Request for discussion to have financial disclosure best practices for Parent Groups

Next meeting - September 2021