PA Meeting Notes

September 12, 2017

Attendance:

Ophelia (moderator), Lisa (moderator), Sarah H(secretary), Amy (treasurer and Magnolia), Susannah, Nikki (2nd), Kim, Ann, Judy, Sommer (4th), Sara (Oak), Tim, Roberto, Cary (7th), Spring (Oak), Heather.

**PA Class Representative Role**

-Welcome to being Class Reps and thank you! Class reps serve as the point of communication between the class parents and activities going on in the school. There must be representation from each class at the PA meetings. Please arrange a back-up attendee if you know you will miss a meeting.

-Notes from the meeting will be sent out within 3 days of the meeting. It is the Rep’s responsibility to forward the to class parents in a timely manner. Feel free to add a personal message and include any pertinent information or to ask for feedback. Secretary will send minutes to co-moderators for approval within 3 days of meeting.

-All parents are members of the PA, and meetings are open to the entire parent community. Any questions or concerns about the school can be discussed together at meetings, or passed on to the class reps ahead of meetings.

**PA vision and goals for the coming year.**

In the past, the PA has had 3 committees dedicated to fulfilling the goals of the PA. These are the Heads, Hearts, and Hands committees.

Hearts Committee: Responsible for community building and socializing.

Sarah Hayward is offered to chair - thank you!

Some feedback about the new school and kiss and ride: while many parents love the expediency the new drop-off format, there is loss of contact with other parents and less opportunity to have parent community. The lack of a central parking area has also removed a natural gathering spot for parents. First request is to look for opportunities for where parents and children can gather to have social interaction.

Opportunities identified:

-EC playground on the mulched area is available for parent-supervised play between 1:15 and 2:45 on weekdays.

-Grades playground on grass/mulched areas is available after 3pm for parent supervised play.

-Contra Dances-2 or even 4 this year? Since we have gym and band, it could be easy to organize.

-Friday morning coffee before Friday Gathering (8:45am in Room 3, parents are always invited/encouraged to attend), and before special events

-parent area in front lobby – looking into getting a couch and coffee maker

Volunteers for coffee social committee: Niki, Spring, Sarah

Volunteers for Contra Dance: Adrienne & Chris

Heads Committee – Responsible for fundraising and educational events

Amy Black to chair - Thank you!

Sara T and Lisa C to help with fundraising – SCRIP, Kroger Rewards, identifying other opportunities.

educational events – further discussion/plans pending.

Hands Committee – Responsible for school/playground beautification, volunteerism, parent handwork/craft opportunity.

Chair needed

-Spring has offered to help with handwork opportunity

\*There are many opportunities to volunteer within the community. All parents are invited to join a committee, or volunteer for a special event that is of interest. Contact your class rep or PA officer to get involved! Joining one of the committees does not require attendance at PA meetings.

**Survey Results** – Early Drop Off and Extended After Care. Previous discussion ran over time, so we did not cover this in the meeting. Results (summary below) are being sent to the Leadership Team.

*Early Drop-off*: 8 parents stated they would use this service every week. Written responses indicate total of children for regular weekly use.

6 parents would use it for drop-in.

*Extended Aftercare*: 2 parents would use service weekly, written responses indicate 6 children.

6 parents would use for drop-in.

**Upcoming events:**

Clothing/coat/rain gear swap: taking place Sept 25-29, the week leading up to Michaelmas. Spring has offered to organize. Huge thank you! Location TBD. Items leftover at the end of the swap will be donated in the spirit of St. Michael.

-Could this eventually be a permanent bin in the school, for continuous gear trading? Would need a designated space and volunteer to oversee the area regularly.

\*Building and Grounds Committee is looking into designating a space for community trade, such as eggs, honey, etc.

*Michaelmas:* taking place on Sept 29. Pageant is at 11 am. Plan for coffee social that morning along with SCRIP and Kroger sign-up opportunity.

*Fall Fest*: Free public event October 20-21. Friday evening is adults only from 7-10p with adult beverages and live entertainment. Saturday will have lots of activities for kids and food will be provided by the 7th grade for fundraiser. Possibly also food trucks. Friday night event will be pot luck.

-Suggestion for a fall potluck in the evening – this may be incorporated into the Fall Fest Friday evening.

*School photos*:

October 3rd (Grades 1-6)

Oct 4th (Early Childhood and Grades 7-8).

Faculty rep is Megan. Cary has volunteered to be parent helper.

**Budget:**

\*Transfer of bank account pending due to regulatory requirements. Once this is done, Kim will transfer finance responsibilities to Amy.

PA revenue \*comes\* from parent dues and fundraising (Kroger Rewards, Scrip).

Expenditures will include child care for school meetings, educational events, and work days. We also pay for food at events, teacher appreciation week, supplies for festivals and celebrations, and social events.

Fundraising supports projects and program at RWS. Last year we were able to donate a $7,000 gift which was used to fund the lazuring (layered painting) of the main hallway and some of the elements on the EC playground. An article about this will be coming out soon in the Messenger.

Fundraising goals for this year? Some ideas: playground, lazuring the back hallways, window replacement. We would like to get input from the Leadership Team and Parent community to determine which projects are priority.

Amy Black will be Treasurer this year and in charge of the Scrip program. Scrip is a fundraising tool for the school where community members purchase gift cards at school for places they already shop, and the school gets a percentage back. School has huge earning potential if we can bolster Scrip enrollment and Kroger Rewards.

Considering offering designated computer stations with help to enroll.

**Updates from Class Reps:**

Shares around the table about what is happening in each of the classes:

Magnolia is adjusting to a new teacher and getting ready to start biking and Russian blocks. Oak is working on finger knitting and getting ready to sew dragons for Michaelmas. Acorn is getting to know each other and had beach themed circle this week. 4th grade is learning Norse mythology and has a weekly cooking class. 1st grade is biking with Mr. Amey, in a form drawing block, painting rainbows, writing letters. 7th grade is learning business math and planning a field trip to the Federal Reserve. 2nd grade is learning to write lower case letters and a French song. 6th grade is learning Greek history. Middle schoolers are excited to have lockers. Sprouts class enjoyed playing, sitting together at the table and eating brown rice for snack.

Next meeting Tuesday October 3rd.