

PTA Meeting: Nov. 6, 2020, 11 a.m., virtual zoom meeting

Present: Meghan Looper (President), Lauren Bucher (Vice President), Debbie Hummel (Secretary), Deborah Candler (Principal), Whitney Childers (Fundraising), Elisabeth Bennett (SCC co-chair), Beth Tanner (Librarian), Cindy Mills (School Secretary), Augusta Comey (volunteer coordinator), Jen Oscarson.

Welcome and Introductions:

Looper welcomes all to meeting. Thanks Anna and Jen and others for halloween parade. Candler says teachers loved it. Looper thanks fundraiser committee (Childers, Bucher and Stormont) commends them for doing such an awesome job in 2020. Candler talks about 1st and 3rd grade award. Going to check in with grades to see when time will work.

Minutes approved from October virtual meetings:

Lauren approves, Jen seconds. All in favor.

Minutes will be posted at: <https://wasatch.slcschools.org/community/parent-teacher-association-ptsa>

School reports:

SIC Report:

No SIC report.

Principal's Report-Deborah Candler:

Candler reports that the school is putting together the student success plan and she's had discussions with the faculty about it. It usually focuses on reading scores and things like that. They are also talking about the achievement gap among the now 26 percent of students from lower socioeconomic families. Plan to make sure those families are online and have the devices and adequate internet. Teachers and staff have been making regular home visits to help with this. There is a school cultural goal of focusing on social/emotional learning. Candler's third goal idea is to look at what is good that is happening that wouldn't be if it weren't for these particular times. Students are learning to become more independent learners. There are 21st century skills they are mastering that might not have been working on in traditional school. What is this time doing that will be beneficial down the road?

Candler discusses recent district board meeting. Reminding all that if they have strong feelings about whether school should resume in person or not to write to the school board. It will be a board decision. The data they have gotten is that they are not afraid a student will come in and get faculty and staff sick but rather the uncontrolled community spread will come into the school. The question is how to mitigate that and what it would be like logistically with teachers getting sick and classes having to go back online to quarantine. Candler is hoping for more guidance as to how the school would function through that, who would substitute? Right now they are still looking at a tiered approach to having kids back starting in January. Candler talks about that part of what is making this such a hard decision is that we don't know what things will look like in two months and that would impact whether families want to be in school or not. It's hard to say when you have more unknowns than knowns, she said.

On a good note Candler says great things are happening particularly for families in need. Last year Tanner helped coordinate Thanksgiving dinner for five families and plans to do 10 this year. Tanner links signup to help with Thanksgiving: <https://signup.com/go/kWbOEWu>
Also, if people are looking for a way to help they can donate gift cards to the school (from places like grocery stores/Walmart/target.) The cards are given to families in need.

SCC report-Elisabeth Bennett:

Bennett says SCC had to cancel the meeting but that the next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 19 at 3:15 p.m. on Zoom.

Treasure's Report- Rachel Preslar:

No report.

Action items:

Fundraiser results:

Childers so pleased at how well it ended. There was a higher number of larger contributions, but the average individual contribution was \$100. Fundraiser raised close to \$48000, which is where we were last year. Childers reports 315 separate donors from 25 different states. At 10 days it was the shortest fundraiser ever. About 70 percent of donors paid the credit card fees so the school got their full donation amount. Childers thanks Candler for coming up with idea to do virtual class prizes. Bucher then talked about the upcoming auction for last year's completed art showcase items. Julie Lewis has taken photos of the items and it will be a blind bidding process with the item going to the highest bidder. Auction sometime before Christmas.

Monthly parent help session:

Looper wonders if we should hold one this month. Candler reports that teachers are having them and no parents are going so it may be something to revisit, but people seem to be fine right now. Bennett and Looper say that the teachers have made it clear that they are available for any issues parents are having and the Friday emails from teachers have also been helpful.

Volunteer hours:

Looper needs a rough estimate on volunteer hours. So any time that people have been volunteering to help a class or teacher, attended PTA or SCC meetings or helped with the halloween parade, etc. Those need to be accounted for please send to her.

Other business:

Discussion about room parents. Still needed are Vasquez, Wiscomb, all of 2nd, Pedersen, Travers, Mitchell, all of 5th and all of 6th. Childers suggest that Anna Martin send out the email again, sometime people need to see things a couple of times.

Next. PTA Meeting scheduled for Dec. 4 11 a.m.