

STEM K-8 GENERAL PTA MEETING

6:30-8:00PM

Zoom

Attending: Erika Whinihan, Don Knutson, Erin Knutson, Jess Andre, Angela Wallis, Colleen Peterson, Zach Peterson, Ellie Robinson, Anna Woodhouse (guest speaker), Charles Cutter, Ben Ostrom, Kate Bennett, Shawna, Mary Ann Lambert, Kate Moore, Hannah Tracy, Alica Every, Trey Sanders, Nicole Albertson, Adrienne Ollerenshaw.

Call Meeting to Order (Don Knutson) - 10 Minutes

- Introductions (Name, kiddo year @ STEM, favorite board game!)
- Approve Meeting Minutes from March 4, 2021 - approved by chat vote.

Guest Speakers: Teen Health @ Denny International Middle School

- Neighborcare has clinics in 15 Seattle schools and services are available to any child.
- No insurance required; everyone can receive services free of charge if needed.
- Full medical, dental, and mental health care, including crisis intervention, dental cleanings, fillings, exams; vaccinations and sport physicals also offered. Open M-F during the regular school year.

Treasurer's Report (Jess Andre) - 5 Minutes

- Direct Give revenue is \$21,440 (vs. \$35K goal). Thank you everyone! 85 donations.
- Budget committee held it's first meeting; scheduling a second meeting for the week after Spring break. Anyone welcome to join.
- School counselor has distributed \$19K from the Giving Tree donations with about \$6K left to give.
- Idea to continue the Giving Tree annually; can discuss in the Budget Committee. In prior years we've given gift cards around the holidays to support food needs over break and holiday gifts. Great idea to discuss expansion/year round family support in a different/new form.
- **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** to revise the Standing Rules & PTA Policies. Please join the committee! The Standing Rules are stale and updating them will make our PTA options more flexible. One way is to create PTA Policies in addition to Standing Rules.

Principal's Update (Ben Ostrom) - 20 Minutes

- Reading of the poem.
- Can't wait to bring Middle School back. MS families can adjust their attendance choice through the end of their first week back (hybrid vs. full remote).
- We will have a .8 social worker for '21-22'. Ms. Fink will return!
- Bus transportation should return by school Tier; should allow families to return in person who didn't before due to transportation challenges.
- No PPE supply challenges; kids are coming masked but school has plenty to provide if needed.

Open Discussion/New Business (All PTA Members) - 15 Minutes

Teacher appreciation: First week of May

End of year celebration: Brynn Chadwick is working on graduation with Robin Graham and Jody Hapgood. Working on a physically-distant outdoor graduation. Talk about end-of-year gift for all kids at Sunday Board meeting.

Committee Updates - 40 Minutes

Membership (Alicia Every)

- Attracting a more diverse membership brainstorming session: what messages should we put out there?
- What do you think would help people understand the point of PTA?
 - We worked on a Mindmap
- Idea to have Listening Sessions at beginning of school year!

Race & Equity (Hannah Tracy & Ellie Robinson)

- Working to partner with the school Race & Equity team, including applying for the SPS Building a Race & Equity Team program. Application is due April 30. Thank you Tracy and Ellie.
- Working to help the school team spend their budget on useful projects.

LGBTQIA+/GGLOW (Shawna Murphy)

- History of GGLOW: Stands for *Gender Non-conforming, Gay, Lesbian, or Whatever!*
- Typically hold a celebration the last Friday in May to kick off Pride month, with food trucks, face painting, etc.
- Still hoping for something this May, virus depending.
- Also includes a fundraiser to support library purchases of LGBTQIA books/e-books. Mary has a wish list of books totaling \$1,000. Might sell tees; could just put out a call for donations. We will get her this money!
- Shawna remains willing to hand off the work of this group to another adult who wants it!

Special Education PTA (Shawna Murphy)

- Shawna is working to recruit a chair for SPED for our PTA and may have someone to start in fall!

Nominating (Angela Wallis)

- Great recruitment process
- 2 nominations forms received, with a few more anticipated! 7 folks have reached out about an executive position and asked questions!
- Thank you to the noms committee for all their work and creativity.

Fundraising (Margo Bergman)

- \$200 raised from Anju Dine-Out for STEM.
- Planning for one more before school is out.

Questions, Comments, Concerns

None

Adjourned at 8:12

Next Meeting is May , 2021 6:30-8:00 PM