

March 2021 STEM K-8 PTA Membership Meeting

March 4, 2021 6:30-8pm

Zoom Call

Call Meeting to Order (Don Knutson) - 10 Minutes

- Approve Meeting Minutes from February 11, 2021
- Nominations committee update: Nominations being accepted until May 9th!

Treasurer's Report (Jess Andre) - 5 Minutes

- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:
 - Budget Committee
 - Revise Standing Rules & PTA Policies

Principal's Update (Ben Ostrom) - 30 Minutes

- Reading of a Poem
- SPS School Budget (2021-2022).
 - Budget is in better shape than expected.
 - Enrollment is projected to be full.
 - We are now a Title 1 Targeted Assistance School.
 - We will get to increase our school counselor from 1 (elementary to 1.6 (.6 Middle School).
 - Increasing SPED Resource-Access from 3.8 to 4.0 FTE.
 - Key Decisions - similar to last school year:
 - Class Size Reduction allocation will fund additional Kinder and 1st grade teachers (same classroom counts as current year),
 - increase SPED Resource-access teachers from 3.8 to 4.0 to support SPED program model, and
 - add additional .2 ELL cert + additional \$\$ to create 1.0 Intervention teacher
 - Title 1 Targeted Assistance Funds - we've never had these funds before so we'll make a plan for how to spend them. We have \$92k to spend on instruction plus some smaller amounts for PD and parent outreach/support. There are restrictions on how to spend it. Ben is working with staff to determine the most effective way to use it - most likely splitting across more than one position.
 - Return to in person learning: PS/Kinder/1st families will have a chance to update their survey response from January. Gov Inslee's recent decision to adjust teachers' priority for Coronavirus vaccine should have an impact on shorter term decisions. 2nd - 8th realistically may not be back until the Fall.
 - Transportation: Board changes will most likely be more comprehensive than just Options schools.

Open Discussion/New Business (All PTA Members) - 10 Minutes

- Kate Moore: Gazette camera update. Her employer Nordstrom is donating multiple cameras from shops around the country. Two will go to STEM and the others will be distributed to other schools. THANK YOU, Kate and Nordstrom!

Dismantling Racism: Discuss White Supremacy Culture (Hannah Tracy & Ellie Robinson) - 20 Minutes

- Hannah Tracy shared Discussion Agreements.
- They shared the article “White Supremacy Culture” by Tema Okun (www.dismantlingracism.org) as a prompt for the discussion.
- The article lists characteristics of white supremacy culture, including perfectionism, sense of urgency, defensiveness, quantity over quality, worship of the written word and others.
- Ellie and Hannah (Race & Equity Committee leads) shared a prompt for attendees: where do we see white supremacy culture operating in our PTA?
- Attendees shared thoughts on how the characteristics listed in the article are manifested in the STEM PTA, PTA's in general, fundraising, and other areas that are relevant to what we do. Folks suggested that we need to continually think about the purpose of the PTA.

Committee Updates - 10 Minutes

- Fundraising (Margo Bergman)
- Membership (Alicia Every)
 - Membership meeting schedule for March 13th
- Race & Equity (Hannah Tracy & Ellie Robinson)

Questions, Comments, Concerns

Adjourned @ 8:07 pm

Next Meeting is April 8, 2021