

WMS PTO June Minutes

6/9/2020

Attendees: Dr Ito, Joelle Reidy, Lisa Fico, Melissa Mack, Linda Krug, Moira McDade, Kristin Bohlin, Elizabeth Kaplan, Jing Jiang, Niki Ofenloch, Nichole Bernier, Penny Rossano, Shirley Leslie-Smith, Regina Najarian, Yvonne Pinson, Mayumi Miyamoto, Debbie __, Brenda __, Philip Malek, Vanessa Ackerman, Elizabeth Callanan, Bea Bezmalinovic, Perri Gordon

PTO Update

Communication

The PTO will not communicate with the school community after the last day of school (we are not allowed to), all communication will come from Dr. Ito post 6/16.

8th Graders

Each 8th grader will get a package delivered by teacher and parent volunteers on 6/15.

Article 12

Motion was put forth to allow online PTO meetings, Lisa Fico read motion, Jenn Fallon seconded motion and more than 3/4 of attendees voting yes - motion passed.

Budget

Proposed budget for 2020-21 was put forth, it is the same as last year as the future of next year is unknown. The budget can be amended in the fall as needs become clearer, Melissa Mack seconded the motion, more than 3/4 of attendees voted yes = motion passed.

Executive Board

The new board for 2020-21 was presented by Lisa Fico, seconded by Nichole Bernier & approved by at least 3/4 of the group.

Co-president - Joelle Reidy

Co-president - Moira McDade

Co-Vice President - Melissa Mack

Co-Vice President - Elizabeth Kaplan

Treasurer - Carrie Chu-Huang

Secretary - Jenn Fallon

Thanks were also given to the outgoing members of the Executive Board:

Lisa Fico - Co-president

Linda Krug - Co-vice president

Kristin Bohlin - Co-treasurer

Dr Ito Update

Dr Ito addressed the civil unrest in the world and how he is talking to staff about it & constantly thinking about DE&I.

Locker Pickups

As it is not safe to let kids into the school, Dr. Ito and staff emptied out all 1200 lockers. They tried to use the combinations they had, but unfortunately some had to be cut. They tried to keep items intact, but they had to throw out food items and other items. The items were then put in bags, sorted by homeroom and put in the gym. There is a pickup of these bags planned for this week - school community received an email today with their plan.

Fitness & Health Lockers - More to come on items left in these lockers.

Art, Makerspace & Woodworking - Items will be saved until fall for pickup.

Fame Jr Props & Costumes - Drama department is working with parent volunteers to return these items.

Item Drop-off - If students have any items to return (like library books), they should try to return them when they are at school doing a previously planned pickup. If there is no pickup planned, hang on as WMS is trying to figure out how to collect these items.

8th Grade Zoom Completion Ceremony

This event will be 10-11:15am on 6/16 and it is open to all who would like to attend.

8th Grade Slide Show

Dr. Ito asked students to send photos of them in their remote environment to add to his collection of photos from 6-8th grade.

Virtual Clap-Out

Dr. Ito asked parents and guardians to send a 5 second video of themselves clapping so that Dr Ito can make a video of many people clapping to replicate the traditional in person clap-out. It became evident that parents on the call had not received the email, so Dr Ito will resend it. The videos are due Thursday.

Questions

How can students get items from their classroom? Teachers are checking classrooms, most are pens and pencils that will not be returned to students as not worth the risk, but if a student has something in particular they would like returned they should contact the school.

Is there a date by which the district has to decide how school proceeds for next year? There is not, WMS is working on two sets of schedules to be prepared for whatever might happen. The District is working with local and state authorities in regard to the fall. The district also has a parental advisory group, if the WMS community is interested in their own group, that can be investigated. Currently standards from the state seem to be for summer school, but there is info on hybrid openings.

Will there be a day for upcoming 6th graders? WMS would like to do this; they will have to see. Usually, WMS approaches placement for 6th graders by trying to have two students from the same elementary school in each homeroom. This fall they will be increasing that number to maybe 50% of the kids in each homeroom from the same elementary school to help the children adjust. The PTO has also offered to help support a 6th grade day in late August if possible.

Other Items

The Book Fair held the previous week raised about \$375 which is half as much as usual but considering the circumstances better than thought possible. The PTO covered the cost of shipping books to children in the METCO program.

If interested in helping the PTO, please email us at wmsptoinfo@gmail.com