



Defer Elementary PTO

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Defer Elementary School

7:00 PM



Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83026400037?pwd=aWFJaFlXdm54OGpONTV6OFFhQTFZUT09>

Meeting ID: 830 2640 0037

Passcode: 012718

Present: Patrice Arend, Kristine Hayes, Erin Weakland, Shareef Simaika, Lindy Holloway, Sophan Buffa Kelly Warnick, Brooke Macuga, Amy Leech, Doris Grose, Janette High, Amy Hermon, Lisa Rheaume, Christy Sherding, Steve Justin, Rachel Siefert, Dana T., Dani Raether, Beth Lowe

1. **Call to Order and Introductions:** Patrice Arend & Lindy Holloway
 - a. Review Mission Statement by Lindy Holloway
 - b. Introduction – of E Board and parents – Shareef Simaika
2. **Presentation** – Amy Herman, Defer Librarian – curbside pickup 1 night a week on Wednesday for Defer 4-5pm, extension of the Grosse Pointe Library. She gave a shout-out to the amazing books from Trombly. New carpet – an investment in the library is an investment in your children. Library Renovation proposal and presentation. 6 large tables - \$3, 077. Picture book shelf – looking for 5ft tall and 4 shelves - \$2, 214.68. Current Picture Book Section – oversized tables are not practical and create more room. Bench seating \$2, 077. Total: \$7705.35. Possibly speak to Grosse Pointe Foundation – We will discuss further as an E-Board
 - i. Replace 5 wooden tables
 1. Existing tables are heavy and pull on the new carpet.
 2. New tables are rolling flexible tables that can be used flat or vertical. Have whiteboard tops.
 - ii. Replace Picture Book tables
 1. Existing tables are bulky.
 2. Replace with vinyl benches that allow for more flexible seating. More inviting to students.
 - iii. Replace picture bookshelves
 1. Current bookshelves are too short for some of the picture books to stand up, hard to see what books are there.
 2. Proposal to replace with 5ft bookshelves.
 - iv. Provided two quotes from different vendors.
 1. Quote #1: 7705.35
 2. Quote #2: 7391.84
 3. Note that these quotes are not final, and they are still negotiating price.
 4. PTO will discuss this further.
3. **Review of the Previous Minutes:** Kristine Hayes & Sophan Buffa – No additions or changes. Motion to approve by Patrice Arend and second by Kristine Hayes
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Stephen Justin & Amy Leech – November and December numbers because we didn't have a December meeting.
 - a. First Half of 2021 Budget Discussion – Doris Grose motion to approve and second by Sophan Buffa
 - b. Lisa Rheaume – Jan. 21, 2021 Kevin's Song Conference sending 5 staff members - \$450 Christy Sherding motioned to approve \$450 second by Kelly Warnick

5. **Vice President's Report:** Doris Grose & Christy Sherding
 - a. PTO Council Meeting Update – Doris Grose – Kindergarten info night took place this week – Ferry – Santa Scavenger Hunt
 - b. Maire – Virtual Craft Fair
 - c. Mason – Takeout Tuesday – every Tuesday – One Day book fair that was outdoors
 - d. Monteith – Once a month – membership drive – dues were \$20 and virtual book fair
 - e. Richard – Playground equipment
 - f. Peirce – Poinsettia sale on hold – snack Trolley for teachers
6. **Communications Report:** Brooke Macuga & Erin Weakland – deferdragonspto@gmail.com - looking at creating an E Board email and domain - \$10/year – can transfer you-tube videos to new account
 - a. Erin – Created a new e-mail account for craft fair, so it was created. Will discuss if we should publish this e-mail account for mailings.
 - b. Discussion on set e-mail accounts for each eBoard position so that there is continuity between years for communications. We could also transfer our Youtube Channel as well.
7. **Committee Reports:** Recruitment & Chair Assignments
 - a. Directory – Stephen Justin – Directories got out to families with the help of all. Can pick up a new directory at \$5 at the office.
 - b. Membership/New Family –
 - c. Fundraising – Beth Lowe – working on Take-Out Tuesday
 - d. Fun Run – fundraiser for library? Fundraise for playground equipment - \$10 000? Get moving crew has a deposit, but we can wait for the fall and won't lose our deposit. Keeping it simple for our families and raise money for the playground. Possibly think about the read-a-thon.
 - e. Park Grill – made \$500 for take-out-Tuesday
 - f. Book Fair – Sophan Buffa/Erin Weakland – We had 27 orders and sold \$1215.20 and we earned \$286.59 to redeem your certificate on Titlewave where you can select eBooks classroom sets, supplemental guides, STEM/Makerspace kits and more!
 - g. Fourth Grade Promotion – Dani Raether/Christy Sherding/Kelly Warnick – met last week and will put together a slide show and ask for \$600 – spend it in celebration and a gift for the students – somehow get a photo op and done by John Martin who is taking the pictures for free! TBD – gift possibly a middle school survival kit
 - h. Hospitality – Christy Sherding
 - i. Discussion on Teacher Treats – Treats for Teachers on Tuesdays
 - i. Spirit Wear – Kelly Warnick – One colour and one style and you pick your size.
 - j. Holiday Craft Fair (Virtual) – Katy Wereley – went really well and was able to pull it off but had a lot of issues with square app
 - k. Diversity Committee – Susan Sutorka – last week of Jan. First week of Feb.
 - l. Blood Drive – Ghada Abdallah
 - m. Grounds/Beautification – Diana Degen Gifford/Roger Clark
 - n. Showcases – Laura Green
 - o. School Board Observer – Sharif Simaika – First meeting with the new board. The plan for the fall is 100% - district is looking for quick saliva tests and possibly vaccines from health department for staff. Summer programming is being planned now in addition they're looking to have a fee-based program to transition to in person learning and connect with key concepts. 3 – 2/week sessions – held at Parcels and Pierce. Joe Hurd is the president – Margaret is the VP – Chris Lee – the secretary
 - p. Safe Route to Schools – Kelly Warnick/Patrice Arend
 - q. Technology Coordinator –
8. **Teachers Report:** Janette High
9. **Principal's Report:** Lisa Rheame
 - a. Thank you to the PTO & Parents for being supportive throughout this school year. Students are wearing masks. Kindness and support is appreciated. Signup Genius is working well for Lunchtime Volunteers.

- b. Email coming out. Kindergarten & First Graders will remain in the classroom for lunch. Classes will rotate in and out of the lunchroom. Please read the letter that comes out via e-mail.
 - c. Young Fives info night went well. Virtual format was different, but successful.
 - d. January 25th will bring specials back in the classroom. No shared supplies. Students will bring shields. Will be held in specials classrooms.
 - e. Thank you for support for Kevin's Song conference.
 - f. COVID cases at Defer – Two cases this week are not related. Contact tracing is occurring through the health department. If your class is directly impacted if the case occurred in your student's classroom. It will be addressed to the class such as "Dear Mrs. _____'s classroom:".
 - g. Parents are doing well at screening at home. Those efforts are highly appreciated.
10. **President's Report:** Patrice Arend & Lindy Holloway
- a. Thanks to everyone for their hard work – Beth for fundraising, Sophan for the book fair. Christy for the holiday party.
11. **Old Business:**
12. **New Business:**
- a. Kristine: Please consider supporting Mini Picassos as they've supported us for craft fair and their business is suffering from COVID.
 - b. Virtual Bingo Night: Priscilla B. offered to chair, we will reach out to see if we can get this started.
 - c. We should discuss Winter/Spring events so that we can reach out to chairs and give them much time to plan.
 - i. Diversity events and Progressive are not going to happen this year due to logistics.
 - ii. Multicultural fair could be a virtual celebration. Focus on education and awareness of other cultures – perhaps an exhibit. Defer News Team could work on it. Do a slide show? Youtube channel? Share a tradition from a different culture – maybe not all on one day.
 - iii. Blood drive – Patrice will reach out.
 - iv. 4th Grade Promotion – Kelly volunteers for District committee.
13. **Member Comment**
14. **Adjourn – 8:56pm**

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 9, 2021