

## PTO Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, September 15th, 2021

Ferry Elementary - 2021-2022

7:00pm - Ferry Library

In attendance: Leslie Genest, Joe Genest, Kelly Butala, Anne Flanagan, April Blunden, Carolyn Anderson, Annie Nicholls, Elly Chichester, Stephanie Cleland, Megan Wood, Randie Kohler, Emily Rubio, Chelsea Brozo, Sandy Cameron, Shannon Fulcher, Nicole Jensen, Jodie Randazzo

1. Introduction and Announcements (Leslie Genest)
  - Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm
2. Approval of April Minutes
  - Motion to approve Minutes: Randie Kohler; Motion seconded: Stephanie Cleland; Motion passed
3. Financial report (Kim Reed)
  - Only expenses so far were snacks for the Meet & Greet and new Welcome to Ferry sings
4. Principal comments (Jodie Randazzo)
  - All students returning from virtual are acclimating nicely
  - Low class numbers
  - State of MI and Wayne county are changing testing/contact tracing - being worked out right now/more info to come
    - Close contact at Ferry only occurs in lunch room - we have seating assignments for contact tracing
    - Ferry's outside lunch is the same as all other schools (no other schools have tables/chairs outside)
5. Teacher representatives (Anne Flanagan and Sandy Cameron)
  - Thank you for all the supplies and breakfast
  - How do we handle teacher reimbursements?
    - Leslie will follow up with Kim - It will be similar to previous years
  - Will we get scholastic news this year ?
    - It has been ordered per Elly but has not arrived yet
    - Elly will follow up with scholastic
  - Do we have money in the budget for unexpected expenses for teachers/classrooms?
    - This will be considered a special request and can be brought up to the board for discussion.
    - we don't have a number till after the fundraiser
    - Teachers should feel free to submit a request to the Board (as few sentences/picture/cost)
  - Are we doing one book one school? Yes we already have books
  - Special request from music teacher Elly Scannell - new instruments (shifting focus from vocal to instruments)
    - **High Priority** - Alto Xylophone - \$600; Soprano Xylophone - \$490
    - **Secondary Requests** - Alto Glockenspiel - \$250; Soprano Glockenspiel - \$240
    - We had ones previously - are they ours/where did they go?
      - We have some that are in "fair/poor condition" per Mrs. Scannell
      - Need more instruments to fill sounds from lack of singing/accommodate more children
    - How long will it take to get them once approved?
    - ★ Decided to wait and see what the fundraiser brings in - tabled till October meeting
    - [Click here for Mrs. Scannell's Proposal](#)
6. Recruiting/Membership (Randie Kohler)
  - Need chair for running club
    - Gets kids active (not specific to running/can incorporate different activities)
    - Low time commitments
    - Bike to school day - May
    - Walk to school day - Fall
  - Need parent for science olympiad - may or may not happen this year
  - Lunchroom volunteers needed - its chaotic right now (can you commit for a certain day each week) -
    - Ideally: one parent for each class K-2; 1 parent for each grade 3-4
    - Paid position is a more involved process/volunteer position is much more relaxed
    - List of interested parents from preregistration will be available this week (Randie)

- Jodi will coordinate with Randi to include a google form in upcoming Smore
- Looking for a volunteer to take over the Kroger/Amazon smile
- Directory - A-Z is charging now \$400 upfront cost - Other companies were considered but all will be at a cost
  - Do we want to have a membership fee to cover the cost? Membership fee will allow access to directory
  - Leslie and Randi will speak with Kim about the best way to set it up venmo/paypal account
  - ★ Motion to approve the upfront expense of \$400: Joe Genest; Motion seconded: Megan Wood; motion passed
  - ★ Motion to give Randie approval to enact \$5 request from families to have access to directory: Nicole Jensen; Motion seconded: Kelly Butala; motion passed

## 7. Fundraising and Events / Chairperson Reports

### A. Fall Fundraiser - Chelsea Brozo

- Kids had a blast at the assembly! We are right around \$20,000 already!
- Prizes have been delivered but due to inventory did not go home with them today
- Jodi and Joe are sending out notices/reminders for fundraising
- sponsorships with local businesses - 6 possible donors so far
- Looking forward to next year, prizes need to be more age appropriate (may want to consider a different company)

### B. Book fair - Elly Chichester - October 13-15th (set up on Tuesday evening in gym)

- Promoting on social media and ferry flash/flyers will be sent home with kids
  - Lets have the kids shop during the day Wednesday
  - Teacher sign up coordinated by Elly and Jodi
  - Can we do a preview day then a shopping day - Preview Tuesday/shop Wednesday
  - Lets promote the e-wallet more this year
- Promote the teacher wish list to use scholastic dollars - some teachers didn't have lists last year
  - Give teachers a preview so they have more time to make a wishlist
- Can parents specify that kids are only allowed to buy books? Will be difficult to enforce
  - Parents should discuss expectations with their kids prior to shopping day
  - Parent can make note on wish list/e-wallet scanner and have child bring with them
- Volunteers needed 1-2 hour blocks
- Scholastic says we cannot have the carts set up outside this year
  - we can have a table outside with pens/journals/etc. to attract people and remind them of the book fair
- Plan is to stay open during parent/teacher conferences - Thursday

### C. Trunk or Treat - Emily Rubio - October 29th

- Keep it simple
- Get parents involved to bring candy and decorate trunks
- Local businesses to donate gift cards/gift basket items for a student prize
- Reach out to high school to see if they want to come set up a fundraising booth at the event (pizza/doughnuts/drinks)

### D. Haunted garage - Randie Kohler - October 10th

- Meeting/more info coming this Monday
- Will need volunteers

## 8. Board of Education report (Nicole Jensen)

- Teacher contracts approved for two years - calendar approved for two years
- Ferry has some of the smaller classes sizes in the district

## 9. PTO Council report (Stephanie Cleland)

- No meeting yet

## 10. Community Resources

### A. Kevin's Song - Nicole Jensen

- Starry, Starry Night - September 23rd 6-10pm

### B. The Family Center - Randie Kohler

- New survey for community members to fill out - Joe will share on the FB page

C. The Grosse Pointe Foundation

- Fall Frolic - September 30th 6:30-9:30

11. Old Business

- Teachers lounge - planning for parent to come in to give it a revamp - Put on pause during COVID
  - Teachers just want it to have a little makeover/more inviting
  - Received a donation of \$5,000 from a family - Leslie will get an update on scheduling the work
  - Hospitality group doing a great job showing appreciation to our teachers!

12. New Business

A. Parking lot - drop off

- No left turn in to the parking lot - Jodi/Randi to help parents and staff to remember why this is important
- Jodi is working on a video will go out soon

B. Meeting start times - should we change to 6:30?

- ★Board decided to change time of October meeting to 6:30 to see how it goes
- Joe will change times on FB invites

14. Adjournment (Leslie Genest)

- 8:24 pm