

MSSH PTSA Board Meeting

1/14/21 Minutes

Attendees: Fran Ellel , Thyra Demetrick, Wendy Talens, Kim Jones, Karen Niemans, John Belcher, Linda Grez, Rebecca Zador joined at 10:00 am

1. Approval of December Minutes - did not happen as Minutes were not available yet
2. Principal's report- John Belcher (with PTSA comments).

Status of MSSH in-person/hybrid reopening: Subs & Bus drivers are urgently needed. This is impacting reopening/scheduling. Asked what else parents could do to facilitate, he encouraged parents to ask the district to do a new survey re transportation. For instance, event buses for sports and other activities will be tight/hard to get. New temporary rules for games will not allow live spectators. Parents can share info like this in the community.

Staff appreciation lunches, etc. have been successful and would be appreciated to continue monthly basis. Jersey Mikes lunch was great. Food/coffee trucks would likely be OK. He will work with Mr. Hart since they are being used at other schools successfully.

General Meeting on Jan. 27th: Fran will reach out to Superintendent Rob Manahan re: addressing reopening at our general meeting, specifically what we need to do to reopen and how parents can help. PTSA can also request that at today's School Board meeting.

Mr. Belcher can do a MSSH site reopening presentation showing what has been done and how school will operate/look.

Parents can ask SVH to do vaccinations/other employer sites.

Superintendent Rob Manahan is retiring effective June 30th. Hiring process will be very distracting to everyone, hiring a recruiting firm, community interview events, etc. PTSA could suggest we use an internal and experienced assistant Superintendent for 1 year contract. That way we are not losing momentum on current District progress and immediate needs. Recruiting now has particular challenges - who will travel and want to move right now? We need someone to start July 1 and be ready before Dr. Manahan leaves.

PTSA discussion: encourage the District to communicate more full info more frequently. There may need to be a communications chair on Board, answering questions such as why the District is not setting dates for secondary schools, and why not doing simultaneous openings? Linda Grez will do a draft email for today's School Board meeting, and next week do a 2nd email re: Sup. Recruitment possibly coordinated with other PTSAs.

We could also ask Dr. Manahan to do a confidential 'post-mortem' for understanding why schools opened so slowly. Unions? DOH/County? An honest assessment will be helpful for a future crisis.

Also, later: Ask District/SB to do a postmortem on communication. Weekly email read rates vary dramatically so 1-minute Robo-calls might be a good tool.

3. Treasurer's Report- Jennifer – no report yet

4. President's Report: General membership meeting, 01/27/2021

SVSF luncheon donation: to be addressed via email.

Possible HS testing dates: ACT/testing 2/26, SAT 3/6.

5. Committee Reports: 1. Reflections – Kim. Got 15 entries which is great! 5 music compositions, 10 entries made through to Council judges. We should make it a priority every year and communicate to families how therapeutic creative work is.

2. Staff Appreciation- Dawn/ Robin – no report

3. Student Welfare- Thyra/ Sarah – no report

4. Membership/ Website- Karen – Has been adding a small number of memberships and doing periodic website updates.

5. Legislative- Linda – Will do an email template that we can use to encourage parents to send to our legislators. Give to Karen to put on website, too.

▪ Top 5 Legislative Topics that passed:

- Increase Access to Nursing, Mental Health and Social Emotional Learning Staff
- Support Students and Preserve Education Funding
- Increase Educational Equity by closing the digital divide.
- Supports and Funding for students with disabilities and their families.
- Prevent and Reduce gun violence and suicide.

6. Community Partnership presentation- Rebecca Zado, SVSD Parent and Coldwell Banker Bain realtor. CBB has a very generous community program which can enable donations of 10% of real estate commissions received on eligible RE contracts. Discussion of Coldwell expectations for monthly flyers/website posting, etc. Questions re how the advertising value is accounted for. Someone will contact Linda Grez to discuss this and get local references. We need to discuss as a board and hope to get back to her soon. We need to investigate further how other PTSAs do it while respecting other realtors who are PTSA members. Should we set up a Program & decide levels of donations for certain business benefits? Kim will ask the PTSA council how their high schools handle it. Fran will ask Heidi about Skyline HS PTSA. We may need someone to take on some tasks to potentially set up a program with benefits, perhaps as a chair role. We do not want to make people unsubscribe to our emails because they contain advertisements. We should remind members about the discounts they already get as PTSA members, too. We could ask students to help set up a program as NHS volunteer hours project.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30.