



**Kirkland Middle School
PTSA General Meeting
October 13, 2020
7:00, Virtual by Zoom
Minutes**

Attendance: Yvonne Holecek, Joelle Harrison, Sarah Rock, Peter Madison, Niki Cassaro, Joel Ryan, Alpa Parikh, Maya Chen, Meghan Wright, Karee Oliver, Wendy Maeda, Sheryl Vincent, Chris Woskett, Debra Droz, Milton Wong, Elysia Heller, Michelle Janson, Candace Dalton, Jorge Herrejon, Gloria Sanchez Hernandez, Marlin

The meeting was called to order at 7:04

The minutes from May 19, 2020 were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Peter Madison

Membership drive/dues and the Big Give are happening now.

*We have enough money in the bank right now to cover our activities this year. Fundraising will carry us into next year.

A few budget changes:

*We moved \$200 from Backpack Awareness Day to the LWPTSA Scholarship Basket Fundraiser.

*We have moved \$600 into Parent Education.

Vote: Moved by Peter Oliver to move \$600 into Parent Education. Seconded by Maya Chen Vote: Approved

KiMS Report: Niki Cassaro

Thank you for the staff appreciation efforts - back to school survival kits and snacks in the faculty room. It is a real boost for teachers.

*Trying to balance academics and keep the school culture going. Teachers and kids are settling in and getting used to the new format.

*Spirit Week starting October 26. Looking forward to a virtual Halloween/Costume day.

*Working hard to communicate with families.

*Questions for Niki?

**When will Spirit Wear arrive? Most likely next week.*

**Could you comment about the possibility of returning to school?*

The plan is to start with K-1. This has been walked back as the Covid rates raised putting King County in the high risk category. The plan is to have plans in place by the semester.

**Could you talk a little about the workload outside of school?*

Niki would love feedback. She has heard from some that it is not enough work. Others are feeling like there is too much after being online all day. Niki will gather some information from teachers and possibly a student survey.

**Are their activities being planned after school to help students to get connected socially?* Teams has just been set up so that the school can run clubs. Math Olympiad, Honor Society, Builders Club, Battle of the Books. It is still in the planning stages. For 6th graders, the peer mentor program will be starting this week. 7th and 8th grade peer mentors will be meeting with 6th graders every other week. Teams is also still working on breakout rooms - this will be very helpful when it is operational.

**What will happen with power outages? At what point will class be stopped?*

The district is creating a policy to be shared soon.

New Business:

***Vote: Revised 2020-2021 Budget Approval - Peter Madison**

Moved by Peter Oliver to approve the Revised 2020-2021 Budget. Seconded by Joelle Harrison. Vote: Approved

***Financial Review Results - Peter Madison**

We are looking at the budget to see if any shifting needs to happen to support the current school situation.

***Vote: Election of Advocacy Co-Chairs Joel Ryan and Autumn Witt - Yvonne Holecek Sarah Rock nominated Joel Ryan and Autumn Witt as Advocacy Chairs. Seconded by Alpa Parikh. Vote: approved.**

Committee Reports:

Membership: Alpa Parikh

Goal for 2020-2021 year is 330 members. We currently have 126 members. We currently have a membership campaign running until the end of October 31. Every new member will be entered to win some Spirit Wear goodies.

Outreach: Maya Chen

*Elyssia Heller - Upstanders - LWPTSA, Peter Kirk & KiMS teaming up to make available to families at home this week - October 12-16. Peach Jar has been a great marketing tool - we are up to 300 families who have registered.

Programs: Karee Oliver

Reflections art contest is happening now. The theme is 'I Matter Because....'. The contest will be conducted digitally this year up until the finals. We continue to look for a parent chair.

Panther Playhouse is currently on hold. Johnmichael Monteith (director) is hoping to eventually do an online play.
Emergency Prep - also looking for a parent volunteer for this position.

Ways & Means: Meghan Wright (not in attendance at this part of meeting)

Advocacy: Joel Ryan

*Please **VOTE** and pay attention to the Office of Public Instruction - there are clear differences between the candidates and results will have a big impact on public education.

President: Yvonne Holecek

*Washington Legislative Assembly will be October 24-25 and representatives will be Stephanie Lecovin and Autumn Witt.

*It is so hard to make connections these days - if you can, try to reach out to new families.

? for Niki - *The band teacher has been hosting a social lunch that kids are enjoying. Would it be possible to do some online clubs?*

Niki - Volunteers are not able to supervise online meetings without a staff member present.

Announcements

Questions:

? - *What is the purpose of the Parent Education fund?*

A-Maya Chen- We would like to have more money to bring speakers, education, and parent support for online learning.

? *We are paying \$500 for Constant Contact. Many schools use free products like Mail Chimp.*

A- Sarah Rock - Mail Chimp is not free for us any longer - we are too big.

? *How are peer mentors selected?*

A-Yvonne - A teacher or counselor nominates some students and all students have the opportunity to apply if they are interested.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55

Respectfully submitted,
Joelle Harrison