

Jefferson Parent Council Meeting Notes

Thursday, June 4, 2020

5:30 pm, *online via Google Meet*

Attendees: Sara Eldridge, Leann Murphy, Kim Patterson, Meghan Wirth, Lona Carter, Jason Danielson (joined at 6:30pm), Julie Feldman, Rachel Carrol Rivas

1. Principal's Report

- The end of the school year has been difficult for everyone; the District sent out a survey to families to help decide what to do next school year. Either way, it will not likely be “normal” for quite a while. Some families want to keep their kids home, most want kids to return to school in person. Up to 50 kids in a space at 6 feet apart will be required, and we are not sure how to do that.
- Staff: Maybe we should just focus on what the families NEED? Can we create an environment that is safe but still “social?”
- Looking at what is happening globally—is there something happening elsewhere that is working and that we can learn from?
- Will private tutoring be available? Should we use paras?
- We will need to select the essential standards to teach and adjust as needed. It is important to keep it positive and engaging for kids. The big concern is for kids that really need the social interaction and how to succeed with limited staff.
- Try to have remote and in-class supply lists that are more kid-specific.
- We will try to solidify a direction by June/July and roll the plan out in August
- The group discussed using supply lists vs. purchasing supplies for kids
- Discussed question about on-line resources to keep kids busy over the summer. Suggested creating a space on the JPC website for this.
- Lona left the meeting at 6pm.

2. Finance report

- Moved funds to cover the foreign language program, including a donation to Helena Symphony, not cashed. March Second Chance Breakfast was included.
- Received additional donations since the survey went out.
- O'Connor still has one uncashed check.
- Nothing else should hit budget before the end of the fiscal year.

3. JPC Parent Survey

- 18 responses received.

- 61% prefer the Cash Drive as our primary fundraiser, 50% favored Original Works, 28% liked Chef's Night Out.
- Top 3 priorities were: Foreign Language Program, Teacher Stipends, and 2nd Chance Breakfast. Staff appreciation was also favored.
- Contact preference was email in the form of the Jefferson Journal, Facebook was ranked last.
- Regarding distance learning and end of year, 72% wanted better ways to connect with kids, but preferred to do something in person.
- Issues included masks or access to masks
- Comments included: more out-of-classroom activities needed, playground improvements
- 36% said would be willing to help JPC further in the future.

Sara (taking notes) lost internet connection for 15 minutes

4. 2020-20201 Officer Elections

- Chair: Meghan Wirth
- Vice-Chair: Rachel Carrol Rivas
- Treasurer: Leann Murphy
- Secretary: Sara Eldridge
- Volunteer Coordinator: Jason Danielson