

Park City School District – PTO/PTA Community Council

March 28, 2016, 1:00 pm

MINUTES

Superintendent: Ember Conley (present)
Council Board: present: Riki Case, Kerrie McNeely, Shannon Schemmer
Not present: Sara Bresee , Amy Macuga
School Board: Tania Knauer (present), Julie Eihausen (present)

PTO/A Presidents:

PCHS Pam Woll (present)
TMJH Ericha Oberg (present)
EHMS Brandy Rasmussen (not present)
JRES Kerrie McNeely , BariNan Rothchild (both present)
TSES Kellee Shea (not presented, represented by Rhea Schomaker)
PPES Shelly Barratt (not present), Suzanne Vandenberg (present)
MPES Kari Talbott (present), Sabina Gobba (not present)

PCEF

- Running with Ed – no representative, email updated provided after meeting: registration deadline is April 15th, and that participation is how schools win the \$5,000, \$3,000, or \$2,000 Ragnar grants

New Items

- School Start Times – Wendy Troxel, Bob O’Connor
 - Wendy Troxel gave a shortened version of the presentation give to the community on March 24, 2016. Link to presentation: http://www.pcschools.us/woad-local/media/start_times_public_info_night_slides_1_.pdf
 - Discussion:
 - The challenges of a later start time include sports. It would be dark soon after school lets out in the winter, making training for winter sports difficult.
 - Later school start-, and therefore end times, are particularly difficult for away games, since the schools we play are far away. Home games would have to start while class is still in session.
 - Some schools have an “athletic period” at the school day, which allows athletes to leave for their schools.
 - We will need a year to study what changes we would have to make to implement a later start time. If we wanted to change to a trimester system, that would take at least 1.5 years.
 - Being on a block schedule makes later start times more difficult because of athletics. A 7 period schedule makes it easier, which is what PCSD used to be on in the 90s. We changed to a block schedule because that’s what the research showed at the time was the way to go.
 - Question: Do we know of any schools that have a block schedule with semesters like we do that have implemented later start times? Answer: Good question. We don’t know.
 - Morgan school district is on a trimester schedule, which works well with sports.
 - Swapping the start times between TMJH/PCHS and EMHS may be easiest/cheapest. Having EMHS start earlier isn’t so hard on the kids because they’re younger, so their sleep schedule isn’t as late as that of older teens; and they start the day with advisory, not an intense class.

- PTO Meeting times/dates for 2016-2017
 - We won't know what our times/dates will be yet, but we need to make sure we coordinate with one another. We may have some people sitting on the boards of more than one school, or at least wanting to attend the meetings of multiple schools.

- PTO Boards for 2016-2017
 - Each school
 - PCHS – needs a president
 - TMH – Kaz Burnz will be president
 - EHMS – Heidi Hewitt will be president
 - JRES – BariNan will be president, Sara Smyth is VP to be Pres the next year
 - TSES – Kellee Shea will stay president, adding a VP to be Pres the next year
 - PPES – Suzanne Vandenberg and Angie Brown will be co-presidents
 - MPES – Kari Talbott will stay president
 - District
 - Sara Bresee and Amy Macuga are not continuing. Ben Ling is joining the board.
 - The new board will consist of Riki, Kerrie, Shannon, and Ben.

Continuing Items

- Grade Realignment – school board/Ember Conley
 - New problems have been uncovered at TMJH, but they cannot be made public yet at this time.
 - When looking at how to add on to the HS to bring 9th grade in, we're also looking at the programming needs for: culinary, pre-engineering, medical, architecture, and performing arts
 - We will need to hire an architect to help with the design team. We will have the same design team as before, with the addition of some teachers who wish to be involved.
 - There will need to be exploration of what to do with 6th grade. There is consensus that 5/6 goes well together, but 6/7 does not. The options are:
 - Add on to teach ES to include 6th grade – this does not seem feasible
 - Build another ES for K-6 so we don't have to add on to the existing elementary schools
 - Build a 5/6 school
 - The highest priority right now is to bring the 9th grade into the HS. There will be a lot of media communication on the problems with TMJH and why that school needs to go away.
 - We currently do not have enough money for any one project. Money will have to be raised to add on to the HS. There are many ways to do this. We could try one large bond. We could have several smaller bonds. We could do a tax levy and then have a bond. The benefit of a bond over a tax levy is that it protects that money and keeps it in PCSD.
 - Grade realignment seems unlikely to be possible for 2017/18 like originally planned. Even getting portables takes 6-7 months. They cost \$100k to purchase. We've looked at renting some, but they're gross.

- School Bus Utilization – school board
 - A subcommittee is being formed
 - Some options have already been worked out and are being looked at

- Facility Use Policy – PTO Presidents
 - Every school seems to be in good shape for getting their programs evaluated by the end of the school year. All the necessary information on what to do is posted on the district PTO web site.

Learning From Each Other

- Directory Spot vs PDF doc
 - PCHS is paying \$750 for Directory Spot and is therefore considering using a searchable PDF instead.
 - Other schools are paying less because they're smaller. TMJH had a lot of the cost covered through advertising.
 - Everyone really likes Directory Spot. We believe that as students move from one school to the next, their date moves with them. The new version will allow people to make their own updates.
 - Each school will decide what they want to do.
- MailChimp vs Google docs for email blasts
 - The elementary schools all use MailChimp. TMJH sends an email through Google Mail. PCHS sends an email to a Google Doc.
 - The benefit of using a Google Doc is that updates can be made even after the email has been sent. This allows for additions and corrections.
 - Each school will decide if they want to use Google Docs. Ben Ling is available to help.
- Amazon Smiles
 - This had been discussed in the past and we decided not to pursue it because we didn't think it was worth it. However, PTO funds at the upper level schools are down due to online registration, so it's worth looking into again.
 - Each school will need to create an administrator account in Amazon Smiles with their bank information. Riki has an email from Amazon with details which she will forward.
 - Once the account is set up, each school should send out a link to their Amazon Smiles page so that parents can link their Amazon account to the desired school. We will advertise this in our newsblasts at the beginning of the school year.

Next Meeting

- May 16, 2016