

Park City School District – PTO/PTA Community Council

January 26, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Superintendent: Ember Conley

Council Board: Sara Bresee, Riki Case, Shannon Schemmer, Cindy Vernon, Laurie West, Christie Worthington

PTO/A Presidents: Laurie West, Marilyn Carson, Christie Worthington, Amy Macuga & Kerrie McNeeley, Missy Hilton, Jodi Manwaring & Tara Stocker, Beth Cummings

Updates from PCEF – Jen Billow / Sara Hutchinson – new programs officer / Abby Funabiki

Thank you all PTO/A's for your support. Annual report was just published and available online. Our goal is to fundraise for the district as a whole. Raised a bit over \$1M and gave about \$1M last year. Budgeted \$750k and exceeded the goal. Money is going back to support all kids. Added 2 part time positions – added a part time finance person. Added a new programs officer – job is to oversee all the grants and programs. Role started in September. Goal is to simplify the applications for support. Granted over \$50k to the teachers for the Teacher Grants. Role is now to support the teachers, schools for their grants. School grants are due March 30. School grants are applied for by the principal. Sara is available to consult on how to apply. This summer, we do the district grants. We also have assessors – to determine whether the programs worked and which ones we should scale.

- Grants (see above)
- RWE – May 16<sup>th</sup> – [www.runningwithed.com](http://www.runningwithed.com); great fundraising activity this year. Teams can range from 5 to ten members. Raised \$235,000 last year. Individuals can participate by running AND giving money to the teacher teams at their school.
  - Exchanges \$ will be upped to \$1000 from \$500. (Subject to some criteria: food, drink, theme, etc. Talk to Jenny Roberts.)
  - Early registration with a discount is extended to end of February. Teacher teams – out of 5, it has to have 3 'school district employment' from ANY school. (If a ten person team, needs to have six.)

Hot Topics

- Master Planning Committee Update – Ember Conley:
  - All information is available on our website. (<https://drive.google.com/folderview?usp=sharing&ddrp=1&id=0B13ghFLf6Syjc3J0WmtVZlhZGM>) The committee has done a great job trying to have the best communications possible. See the latest letter to the editor and our FB page.
  - We're putting together a proposal to hire an urban planner – to look at the Kearns Campus (as phase I) with the understanding that Treasure Mountain is a facility that needs work. Likely looking at a new build for Treasure Mountain.
  - We are looking also at Grade Realignment. A proposal will be released to the community Tuesday.
    - Overview – we'll be looking at preschool thru 4<sup>th</sup> at elementary; keeping 5-6<sup>th</sup> together (as 6<sup>th</sup> is viewed by the state as "elementary" ← and how we're delivering dual language); or possibly to do 5,6,7,8 together. With the understanding that 9<sup>th</sup> would move back into the high school. This would require high school expansion.
    - There are many options to consider. The district is looking for input from the community:
      - [Masterplanning@PCSchools.us](mailto:Masterplanning@PCSchools.us) Right now goes to Lori Pearce. Those emails will be reviewed when the master planning committee meets – in the "input from the community" agenda line item.

- We are launching a blog – as well as FB and Twitter – goal to gather input on grade realignment.
- EXPLORING all of this is why we're hiring a planner. Information is available. Please be sure to get your families involved.
- We are also recommending a communications specialist – to get us through the bond process. Help engage the community, manage forums and gather input to insure we have community engagement and excellent information flow.
- Other Note –
  - One of the assumptions that master planning has made – we are not looking at expanding our boundaries.
  - We are looking at expanding kindergarten to all day in 2016-17 school year.
- Q&A:
  - Is there a timeline?
    - If the school board wants to bond, it has to pass a resolution roughly by mid-August to issue a bond.
    - If such a resolution is passed, it would be voted on at the Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> elections.
    - If the bond passes at the Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> election, we work to put together the bond offering for selling in the March timeframe. We'll further be hiring architects, contractors, etc. to get moving.
  - What's the goal to have something built?
    - Goal – start of school 2017. To get there we have to have everything fall into place.
  - According to the ParkRag.com post from 1/23/15, Mr. Potts suggested that PCSD considers annexing areas outside of our district boundaries and then perhaps can build on that annexed land, which might be more suitable than what's available inside our current boundaries.
    - Per Ember – the master planning committee is not looking at this time to expand our boundaries. PCSD administrators are not in discussions with other districts.
    - We need to be sure our capacity meets the needs of the students within our boundaries.
    - We are currently not looking at building a new elementary school because that would increase our capacity, which could lead to a further increase in out-of-district students.
- Facility Use Policy – a subset of the board met with Todd and Ember in December.
  - Intent is to recoup some of the funds we end up spending as a district when other organizations come in and use our facilities, we discussed trying to quantify what that \$ amount is.
  - Ideas were generated into 4 proposals / ideas.
  - Update from Todd:
    - The School Board did look at this policy at the last meeting, but only as it relates to liability insurance. We needed to bring our policy in compliance with new state laws. This has been updated in the language in the policy.
    - See “the green version” of the language online. The new language is in green.
  - Status Quo until we pull the committee back together and decides which of the 4 ideas to pursue.

#### Updates from the District – Dr. Einhorn

- Dual Language Immersion

- Long term plans for Dual Immersion
- Learning Materials – lack of audio books in target language
- Update held last Tuesday night:
  - Jill Landes-Lee is running a newsletter out of the U of U. Get it here: (LINK)
    - Of note - Through the State of Utah and the U of U – they’re working on offering “world languages” options for younger children. (Instead of asking each school to be full immersion).
  - Growth of DLI Across the State:
    - 33 Chinese
    - 14 French
    - 2 German
    - 6 Portuguese
    - 63 Spanish
    - Note: State Department is asking that Russian be added.
  - A recent Bloomberg report was released – Spanish was ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in business importance. French was ranked 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Assessment
    - There is much benchmarking taking place. Discussion of AAPPL moving down to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. AAPPL testing is done in the target language and uses a microphone and a visual interaction – which measures can you speak and apply the language)
    - Gallileo is one of the benchmarking tools. That testing data to be shared soon by Dr. Einhorn.
    - DIBELS (k-3<sup>rd</sup> grade). And writing samples. There is a focus this year on written language. By 6<sup>th</sup> grade the AAPPL assessment focuses on writing.
    - Our students on AAPPL are largely at or above the proficiency for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> grade
    - There has been a concern that DLI students are “losing out” on their English skills. However, on the Sage test, DLI students scored higher than the traditional kids in English. In math, it was about even.
  - Model Review – the top models have not changed.
    - We’re following the state model. 50-50 (English-Target Language) can go through 6<sup>th</sup> grade only if the 6<sup>th</sup> grade is in an elementary school.
      - Right now – we don’t offer 50-50 in 6<sup>th</sup> grade due to school grade alignment. IF School Grade Alignment changes as part of master planning, we could offer 50-50 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
    - Grade level goals:
      - For 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup>: State is working with SCOLA – a language acquisition service – to teach language acquisition skills. We’re discussing possibly how to work SCOLA in for the Park City 7<sup>th</sup> Graders. SCOLA is being modified to meet Utah needs. The goal here is to start working on prepping for the AP test – specifically related to the culture items.
      - 9<sup>th</sup> grade: Students will take Spanish (or French) AP language test.
      - 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade: 3000 level (language) course will be taught through “EdNet” courses at the U of U.
    - The World Language and the DLI standards have merged. This is now focused on the speaking standards and less on grammar, although grammar is a focus for 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up. For 6,7,8 grade, teachers have to be DLI-certified. Most of the World Language teachers do not meet the DLI standards. Advising all of our World Language teachers to start working on their AP or the DLI certification.

- IMPORTANT: Registration for Kindergarten in 2015-16 is OPEN NOW. It's all Online. There are 2 people who can help: Carmella Foote and Eliana Lambert
  - Timeline:
    - Lottery will be held week of Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> to determine DLI placement based on priority levels:
      - Native speakers
      - DLI sibling (2<sup>nd</sup> grader and up)
      - Employee's child
      - DLI sibling (1<sup>st</sup> grade)
      - Living in school boundary
      - Living in district boundary
      - Out of District (must complete open enrollment form by Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>)
        - Note – even if you are out of district BUT got in for kindergarten, these families MUST STILL APPLY / REAPPLY for DLI
    - Registration forms are online: January 21<sup>st</sup> – district website
    - Must have form in by 4 p.m. by Feb 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015
    - If you live outside the school or district boundary – you must also submit an Open Enrollment form by the 13<sup>th</sup> – even if your child has attended Kindergarten in PC
    - Notifications of acceptance will be received by March 13<sup>th</sup>
    - Signed Confirmation of Acceptance AND Parent Commitment form to the school by March 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - Q&A: Learning Materials
    - There is a dual language fair for students in grades 4-6 that PCSD students have an opportunity to attend. There **\*\*MAY\*\*** be some \$s available for transportation. Any money left over will be devoted to books and audio books.
      - The Scholastic books in particular has some challenges with their language accuracy so we're working with local language publishers.
      - NOTE: Reading A to Z has in-languages books – and audio books.

#### Learning from Each Other – PTO/A Representatives

- Bereavement fund – Laurie West. We have a \$600 budget at the high school – for if a parent passes away and there is a stated 'donation' place. We're finding that we don't have enough money. What do other schools do?
  - Treasure has \$500. At Ecker – when we have a death, we pull it as we need it.
  - Other schools do not have a fund.
- Getting School Registration fully online – Q for Ember:
  - Yes – all of the grades should be except Kindergarten this year. Goal is all grades should be online. Communications about registration and dates should be coming soon.
  - Of note – PTO registration at Jeremy is also fully online. See Amy Macuga for best practices.
- Summit Community Power Works competition – with the goal of educating and incentivizing residents and the district to enable our energy systems to be more efficient.
  - Q: Is there anything that the PTO/PTA needs to take care of?
    - No. The district has a plan that is being developed.
- Sundance is screening: We have an offer to screen the Most Likely to Succeed documentary for the community and have the director come out and speak. How can we integrate some of these ideas into the school?

- Per Ember – we have been given tickets for our administrators. And in master planning – we are working on how to integrate some of these things, like collaborative space. AND we’ve been selected by Apple to be an “Apple Distinguished District” – where we get additional training. It’s opening our eyes.
- Gift Policy - Per Missy Hilton – Trailside
  - Propose that the principal needs to go to all parents and clarify the gift-giving policy (NOT the PTO/PTA)
  - Per Ember – I’ve communicated this policy to our administrators.
  - General agreement that all the PTO will do is distribute communication from principals, but will not be involved in enforcing the policy.
- Science Fair:
  - Required for all PACE (GATE) students in elementary school and at Ecker
  - JRES - required participation for all of 5th grade (?)
  - Discussion
- PACE specialists – does anyone know what’s on track?
  - District will have to determine whether there is budget to support this.
- April 24<sup>th</sup> is the Excellent Educator award. Save the Date. And PTO board members can submit nominations. (Amy Macuga)

#### If There’s Time

See above

#### “Ask Ember”

- Questions/Rumors

#### Next Meeting

- time: March 30, 2015 at 1:00 pm
- topics: