

Park City School District – PTO/PTA Community Council

November 7, 2016, 12:30 pm

MINUTES

Superintendent: Ember Conley

PCSD PTO Board: Riki Case, Ben Ling, Heidi Hewitt, Shannon Schemmer, Belinda Adams

PTO/A Presidents:

2016-2017

PCHS	Julianne Rosen-Carone
TMJH	Kaz Burnz
EHMS	Heidi Hewitt
JRES	BariNan Rothchild, Sarah Smyth
TSES	Kellee Shea
PPES	Suzanne Vandenberg, Angie Brown
MPES	Kari Talbott

Present: Molly Miller, Riki Case, Ben Ling, Shannon Schemmer, Julianne Rosen-Carone, Kaz Burnz, Barinan Rothchild, Suzanne Vandenberg, Angie Brown, Kari Talbot, Laurie West, Megan Luckan, Stacia Hoots, Tania Knauer

PCEF – Jen Billow

- Live PC Give PC raised \$1.74M; it looks like all elementary schools will meet their goal
- Teacher Grants - Laurie West is heading this up, we received a \$25k donation this year so that about \$75k can be given out. The ask is around \$200k.
- Over 100 programs are being funded through PCEF. There is a new flier that nicely shows what is being funded at each school.
- Three programs have committed funding for 3 years: Coding K-3, After School care, and Preschool. A single donor made a large donation to fund coding for the first year. We will begin fundraising for years 2 and 3. Vail made a large donation to the Preschool program.
- 30% of parents have donated to PCEF. Our goal is 50%. Last year we made it to 50% by RWE.
- Phonathon – this used to raise a lot more money than it does now. We have pushed donating at the time of school registration, resulting in an increase in donations then and a decrease in donation at the Phonathon, which has become more of a marketing tool.
- The ultimate goal is to have everyone donate \$180 per student at the time of registration.

Science Fair – Stacia Hoots

- Stacia runs the science fair at JRES, Charlie Mathews runs it for the district
- The dates for each school are set. Stacia will send them to Molly to distribute.
- We're working on getting more judges and building mentors for younger students. Hoping to get LIA involved.
- The Illuminating software has been used for registration, but is also a valuable tool for judging. Stacia is available to help train people so that they make use of this software capability.
- Discussion on the direction of the science fair in the district:
 - o A big problem is that doing a science fair project is not part of the curriculum, so students have to do it on their own outside of school. This results in kids not being motivated to do the project and forces parents to be the driver behind the project.

- At the higher grades, students have little time to do an additional project. It would be useful if teachers let students do a project in lieu of a class assignment. It would also be useful if teachers supported kids doing the project.
- Understanding the scientific method is useful not just for science projects, but to many aspects of education. We would like to see it be taught as part of the curriculum, and not just in one grade.
- **Action Item:** Stacia will talk to Kathy Einhorn and Charlie Matthews about having science fair projects be more supported by the curriculum and to evaluate what role the fair should play, now that we have more of a STEM push in our district.

District Updates –Molly Miller

- School Start Times
 - The committee is looking at the impact on students, staff, and parents; as well as studying the cost, time, traffic, and transportation aspects of changing start times
 - The consensus is that having 2 start times is cost prohibitive, so there need to be 3 start times; and there needs to be 60 minutes between start times.
 - Things to consider: We don't want the little kids out in the dark. If HS starts very late, students would miss a lot more of their school day for athletics/activities.
 - The directive from the school board is that secondary schools should start no earlier than 8:30 am.
 - A master schedule will be created in January and the goal is to have a proposal by that time so it can be implemented for the 2017-2018 school year.
 - Current proposals (the first two came from the committee, the third one was added by the PCSD PTO meeting attendees):

▪ 7:30 ES	8:30 TMJH, PCHS	9:30 EHMS
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 - Parent feedback is desired. **Action Item:** Molly will send out some verbiage soliciting feedback so that each school can put something in their newsletter.
- Lunch & Learn
 - The first Lunch & Learn is Wednesday, November 16 at the district office 12 – 1 pm and is open to all
 - The guest speaker is from Parents Empowered
- HS Expansion Redesign – community input meetings
 - The committee has come up with 3 options that will be presented to the school board on Dec 6.
 - There will be three community input meetings: 12/13 at the DO, 1/11 at EHMS, 2/2 at PCHS
 - Timeline: 2/28 school board discusses the options, 3/7 school board votes, June 2017 groundbreaking
- Talking Tour
 - Molly asked if it would be valuable to have school board members come to each school to give updates to parents on projects that affect them. The response was Yes.
 - There was discussion on how to best do this, including piggy-backing off already scheduled events such as parent/teacher conferences, as well as having a video that parents can watch on their own time.

Sharing/Learning from Each Other

- Basin Recreation Master Plan
 - o Will be presented to the public at a November 17 meeting

- Playworks update – BariNan
 - o This is a program that focuses on teaching healthy conflict resolution and social interaction to elementary school kids through structured recess activities.
 - o Several parents plus Molly Miller from the district and JRES principal Shawn Kuennen visited Canyon school district to observe their implementation.
 - o JRES will be implementing this, hopefully as early as January 2017.
 - o The goal is to implement this at all elementary schools in the district so that by the time the students reach Ecker, they will all have the same social interaction skills.
 - o The cost is \$18k for the first year. It wasn't clear if that was per school or not. The first year a Playworks employee would rotate from school to school to help with implementation and training. After the first year it's more of a maintenance program.
 - o Funding is coming through Live PC Give PC so far. Future funding could possibly come from PCEF and Land Trust money.

- PCHS Bands Sweetheart Gala – Ben
 - o The Sweetheart Gala is a dinner and dance hosted by the PCHS Bands on February 10, 2017. It is their primary fundraiser. Tickets are available at www.pcbands.net
 - o The PCHS Varsity Jazz band provides entertainment.
 - o The event is open to the entire community.

PCSD PTO Administrative Updates

- Group exemption status
 - o The IRS has sent us a notice that we are back in good standing with them and that we do have group exemption status.
 - o We still need to make sure the PPES gets added.

- Taxes
 - o The 2015-2016 taxes will be filed this week. The deadline is November 15, 2016
 - o We need to file an amendment to the 2014-2015 taxes, which we had filed earlier this year.