

Roy Cloud PTO Meeting

February 21, 2018

6:30 p.m.

Attended by: Yvonne Sarles, Dana Hardester, Anna Rivoli, Jen Clark, Jim Balestieri, Mary Hussey, Leanna Staben, Christina Granato, Alicia Truby, Heidi Von Briel, Kortney Opshaug, Alice Harkey, Kristen Fielding

1. Call meeting to order - Yvonne Sarles
2. Treasurer's report - Jim Balestieri
 - Income for the month of January was just over \$45K. We received almost \$40K in direct donations, which pushes us to \$234K thus far this year. Our goal is \$250K - we expect to hit it.
 - We received a check for \$536.94 - that was related to last year's 8th grade graduation. The company we used for balloons went out of business and never cashed the check, so the money went back into our account, and will be pushed into this year's graduation.
 - This year's Box Top contest raised triple what we've ever received - \$1108!
 - Expenses were very light - a little over \$16K.
 - There was a small expense for Donor Perfect (our donor management software). That's why it looks like we are over budget this year on Direct Donations - it's not that the team had spent more money, it is that Jim put the service charges into that account to better track them. It looks like we are still being charged for DoJiggy - we are looking into this. We think it's an automatic monthly service charge, and if so, we may discontinue it.
 - Office expenses - we just bought a new PTO printer. We've had some glitches with Quicken, it is only showing that we spent \$2 - we have spent more than that.
 - One change we've made is to have the PTO pay for the field trips directly. The process has been for the PTO to deposit the money into the District account, but there have been some mistakes on the District's part, and it's been a pain for Judy. Going forward, Jim will write the check directly.
 - A question was asked whether History Comes Alive falls under Field Trips; no, it falls under Investigative Learning.
 - Anna mentioned that the 6th grade is interested in doing History Comes Alive next year; per Jim they should sign up early.
 - A question was asked about the SafeSave fee - that's a Direct Donations Processing Fee. Alice noted that the Constant Contact monthly fee has doubled, and wondered if we could get a non-profit discount? Jim will check.
 - Our ending balance for the month is \$433K.
 - A motion to approve the budget was made and seconded, all were in favor.
3. Principal's report, including school safety review - Dana Hardester
 - Dana acknowledged that there is a lot out there right now about school shootings, and this is clearly a subject of concern for everyone. The superintendent sent out letter about it, and our newsletter had a message about Cloud's safety processes. We did a Lockdown drill in December. There was no police presence in the December drill, but the teachers did barricade the classroom doors, and the lights were turned out. Dana left it to the teachers to decide how to talk about this with their classrooms. Later this spring we will do the full drill.
 - There is a plan being put together to fully fence in the school. The plans have to go to the state, and the state must approve. Alice asked whether the fencing is different, perhaps higher, than what we have now? Dana doesn't know yet, but said that new fence will close

the existing gap. Right now, we have three entrances - Jefferson, Emerald Hill road, and Red Oak. Those entrances will lock shut at 8:30 am.

- A question was asked about the staff and parent parking lots? We are still figuring that out. On the weekends, the community will still be able to come onto the property. But during the school day, if people need to enter, the door will have to be unlocked on the inside.
- The fence will be put in through the Quick Start process, and so it will happen within a year. The air conditioning is in, and the outside eating area is in - they were both done through Quick Start.
- Dana went on to mention that the teacher doors lock from the outside but not the inside. Recently, teachers were given Lockdown Magnets, and can use these to lock doors from the inside. The Library, the Office, the MUB, and four classrooms - the three Kindergarten rooms and Mrs. Mendez - already lock from the inside. The entrance doors to the 4th and 5th grade building already do as well. The current locks will be replaced with Columbine locks - these will be put in along with the fencing as part of Quick Start.
- A suggestion was made to remind parents who volunteer to sign in at the office when they do so. Dana agreed to put it in as a reminder for the Thunderbolt.
- Another parent asked whether we could lock the gate by Jefferson? It's an easy way to get on Campus. Another suggestion was made as to whether we can try to make the fence aesthetically appealing. Also, it was pointed out, there needs to be a way for parents and other visitors to go to the office. Is there a way to remind people to go to the office first? Yvonne suggested that we should make a poster, or a colorful banner, to remind parents to go back and sign in and get their badge.
- Alice asked Dana whether she thought the District would reconsider doing the Lockdown Drill in the fall, to set the tone? Dana responded that the younger kids sometimes get really scared, so it's best to wait until they've had some time to settle into the school year. Anna added that the 6th grade kids have asked what they should do in the case of an invader, and her response was 'We fight.'
- There was a reminder that the main directive from the police is that, in case of an invader, we get them out of the school zone. PCC is our safe site if we can get there - but just get them off campus. If you can't get them out, then lockdown in the classroom.
- Do we have security cameras on campus? Yes - and we are updating them. Dana has a TV in her office that has the sixteen cameras that record the school activity.
- There was a discussion and several questions around whether the District is supportive if the administrators or the teachers report a student. Yes - there is a process. Both the County and District have a Threat Assessment team, and Dana is on it. Teachers can call a meeting about any kid, about any issue. Another member of the team has mental health training, and someone from the County Mental Health department came and talked to the team about suicide and threat assessment.
- Do students feel like they know to report threatening behavior or disturbing statements? And if so, is it taken seriously? Yes, per Dana. We've had some of that with younger students saying some disturbing things- I want to kill you, etc - where we've had to have some behavior modification to help kids learn not to say these things. We take it very seriously.
- There was some discussion about the planned March 14th Walk outs and the March 24th Women's March. There is also the Columbine anniversary in April. These are not sanctioned by the District. Dana has asked Dr. Baker what the District plan is. It was mentioned that it would be good to have parents attend if they choose. Yvonne asked whether we should consider holding a moment of silence in the MUB. We aren't sure what we are going to do as yet.
- There was some discussion around whether this activity might scare the kids. What about making it a Kindness Day? Kristen said she liked the approach of having the kids do something kind for others to mark the occasion. Perhaps have the older kids read a story to the younger kids. Let's have the kids do something positive for everyone, so that everyone walks away with something positive.

4. Vice Principal's report - Kristen Fielding
 - Bolt awards will be held on the last Thursday of the month for 1st - 5th grade.
 - English language learners are in the process of LPAC exams. Kristen hopes to have everything wrapped up in the next week. We'll be talking about CASP assessments in a matter of a month or two.
 - The kids are really enjoying the new Lunch Shelter. We'll be having discussions at assembly about the behavior at lunchtime. It's exciting for them, in the fresh air. It helps that they can see everyone else and are closer to the other kids.

5. Teacher's report - Anna Rivoli
 - Cancer Awareness Week went really well. The ASB raised \$1200 for cancer awareness. 10 students and parents donated hair for wigs for kids. Yearbook will be taking a picture of all who donated their hair (such a generous act!).
 - ASB is working on the Middle School rally, which will be on March 28th.
 - Morning Bolt Awards - the middle school kids are having trouble behaving during the Bolt Awards. The ASB isn't behaving either - Anna has spoken with them. She sat down with the President and the VP, and they came up with some ideas. They have a few changes to offer, perhaps speeding the awards up a little bit. They wanted to turn it into a mini-rally, but Anna pointed out there isn't time for that.

6. Auction Team final comments/questions - Leanna Staben
 - Everything has come together. We have had a few people who couldn't make it, so Leanna asked that we let people know if they couldn't get tickets that there might be some yet available.
 - We have a strong teacher presence this year, more attending than last year.
 - We are going to have a T-shirt signed by all the staff members for the opening bid.
 - It will be a shorter timeline for the silent auction, but we will reopen the silent action for a bit after dinner.
 - For those teachers hosting classroom events for the lower grades, if it is available for the whole class, we will make sure there is a sign up sheet outside the classroom so that kids whose parents couldn't attend the auction could still sign up for the classroom event.

7. Miscellaneous - Yvonne Sarles
 - Marybeth introduced a plan for a pre-purchase school supply program. The concept is that parents will be able to pre-purchase supplies, and then pick them up at Maze Days. The company behind this is First Day School Supplies. Based on their metrics, the company thinks that we'll get 200 kits ordered in the first year, but after that we could get to 50% of families buying supplies through this program.
 - There was a discussion around whether we should tie any fundraising to this, and if so, what will we use it for? Should we use the money to purchase supplies for low income students? Or, should we use the fund to buy bulk supplies for the school?
 - Yvonne - maybe we should include an option to add a \$3 donation to every kit purchased? Or should we add a percentage donation to the items purchased? We probably wouldn't add it on top of the backpacks and lunch boxes that they sell. The backpacks and lunch boxes are high quality but expensive. It was agreed that a flat fee would be easier to add than a percentage of the total purchased.
 - Why do this? 3%-5% of our students are on free and reduced lunches; those kids might feel really great having the same supplies as everyone else.
 - There will be a lot of marketing around this plan. We will start advertising in April and will end the sign up period in June.
 - Some schools purchase extra kits and sell them at Maze Days. Maybe the first year that would be an extra complication, but perhaps we could do that going forward.
 - Where will we store the kits? Still figuring that out.

- A motion to adjourn was made and seconded, and the meeting was closed.