

Thurston PTO Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2020
Special Board Meeting via Zoom
Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Allison Jeter, Jon Svoboda, Bruce Fields, Corentin Cras-Méneur, Diane McIntyre, Kelly Williams, Kelly Delp, Principal York, Alisa Cox, Mary Manthey, Nadine Wong, Rosemarie Callahan

This special meeting of the PTO Board was carried out via Zoom.

PTO President Allison Jeter welcomes everyone to the meeting, especially members of the community who are in attendance.

Minutes Approval: *Kelly Delp moves to approve February Minutes Kelly Delp, seconded by Mary Manthey, the motion passes.*

Jon Svoboda Motion to approve April minutes they - seconded by Kelly Delp, the motion passes.

Fundraising, Thurston Nature Center, Thurston Community Players and Safety Chair: No report

Principal and VicePrincipal Report: Ms. York conveys thanks from the teachers for the PTO for additional Teacher Grant and Shipt subscription. The teachers are working hard to wrap up the rest of the year. Student engagement has been pretty good and families are accessing online support when they need it. The field day challenge was recently launched with daily challenges for each team and hopes to build excitement for Field Day. Check out Thurston homepage and special teachers website for updates.

Ms Callahan provides a quick update on Summer Adventure. Enrollment will open on May 22 open to the larger group of students.

Update on PTO Activities by Allison Jeter.

- Thank you to Mary Manthey and Elizabeth Morehead on their efforts for celebrating Earth Week.
- The International Night committee is working on a virtual passport and asking for submissions.
- Teacher's Appreciation Week - thank you to all families who submitted pictures/notes for each teacher, complementary one year subscription to Shipt that was provided by Shipt, additional \$100 in Teacher credit to the teachers.

- The Thurston Pantry used its allocated Fund to purchase 20- \$50 Kroger gift cards that have been given to the school social worker to be distributed to any families in need. Any families needing help can contact Kelly Delp or PTO President Allison Jeter.

Elections. The group discusses the timing of election of the PTO Board that typically takes place in June annually. Given the current circumstances where the majority of the membership is unable to vote in person, the board discusses delaying elections until the Fall 2020 and the timing of the nomination process and election. Based on the anticipated school calendar and board meeting calendar for Fall 2020, the board selected Friday November 13 as the due date for ballots. The board will solicit nominations for open positions once school starts but encourages anyone who is interested in serving to reach out to the PTO President.

Due to the current circumstances where the majority of the membership is unable to vote in person, Jon Svoboda motioned to temporarily amend the bylaws to delay elections for the Fiscal Year 2020-21 until Friday November 13, 2020, seconded by Mary Manthey - 1 abstention, the motion passes.

Fifth Grade Celebration. Mary Manthey provides an update on the virtual sendoff and celebration after discussion with 5th grade teachers, parent volunteers and Ms. York and Ms. Callahan. This would include a slideshow, clap out video, certificates, yard signs, shirts and activity bags for the last week of school. They would like to request the reallocation of the field trip expenses for the 5th grade from the PTO for this virtual celebration for the 75 students for the 5th grade.

The group discusses that this virtual celebration and associate expenses would be a one-time allocation given the COVID-19 situation. The budget being requested is less than the field trip expenses for the approximately \$3800 we expected to spend on the remaining 5th grade field trips for Rolling Hills and Greenfield Village. Furthermore, the fifth graders will likely not elect to participate in any summer enrichment opportunities that will be funded by the PTO.

Mary Manthey moves to allocate up to \$2,500 for the fifth grade virtual celebration, seconded by Diane McIntyre. 1 opposition, 1 abstention. The motion passes.

Summer enrichment Opportunities. The Board discusses the student enrichment suggestions from the April PTO Board meeting.

Think Stretch Workbooks: \$8/workbook + additional \$4 for shipping. The company has an existing contract with AAPS.

Nutty Science kit with 4 STEM activities and online additional enrichment for \$9/kit. While Nutty Science can arrange a designated pick up schedule - a no-contact shipping option is preferred.

District initiated Summer Learning Adventures based on first come first serve - registration forms - this is a summer enrichment option for families at no costs.

The board discusses the option of offering both the kit+workbook for each student. The budget could support getting both. There was a discussion about limiting these kits to PreK to fourth graders but fifth graders would be able to get on if they wanted. A Google Order Form will be sent out to families to request their choice(s) for the Summer Enrichment Opportunities.

Jon Svoboda moves to allocate funding for summer enrichment activities for all current students at Thurston not to exceed \$10,700 to be distributed per student's response via the Google Order Form, seconded by Allison Jeter. The motion passes.

Budget Meeting. There was a discussion about the budget planning process for the Fiscal Year 2020-21. Budgets are typically presented to the community and voted on in June annually. Given the uncertainty of the COVID-19 and its impact on the school year, activities and fundraising, the budget process/allocation might have to be handled differently for the upcoming year. The Board will meet ahead of the Budget meeting scheduled for June 9, 2020 to discuss this further. A budget presentation for the current fiscal year will be made at the June 9 meeting.

Jon Svoboda moves to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mary Manthey. The meeting adjourns at 8:31 pm.

Action since last board meeting: There was an additional request for approval of the reimbursement of an additional \$731.63 for expenses incurred for the Winter Carnival. A request for approval was sent out to the Board members via email. The following responses were received: 9 Yes, 1 rejection and 1 abstention. This request for additional expenses was approved.