Forest Road PTO Meeting - 9/28/2021

Attendance: Natalie Campos-Cintron, Erin Shanahan, Kate Cannon, Leah Lowery, Katie Black, Amanda Ries, Karine Otten, Karli Stamer, Laura Dunn

**Principal Report**

* Lunch is working out, which was a big stressor. It did impact some of the scheduling, so they are working on adjusting it a bit around lunch. They will be able to leave one of their gyms open longer to allow for more supports and collaboration.
* Adjusting to kids being back together. While they are very excited, they are also re-learning how to do school. Also learning how to navigate some of their friendships now that they are all together. Trying to be as proactive as they can with the kids. They are going to set up a calm lunch as some kids have symptoms of anxiety with going out to recess with so many other kids. They’ve created a space for kids to sit and do chalk. Mr Bothwell is going to open his room for art. They’re creating “calm” spaces for lunch for kids who need it.
* Some of older kids are involved in social media and texting now. For 6th grade, the police officers came in today to do a presentation about being safe online. Ms. Mlade is also working on teaching how to be safe online.
* Monitors in connections classrooms + art room + music room(?) are not all installed.
* Back-to-school party was wonderful. Great turnout. Meet and greet with the parents as an informal way to meet parents seemed to go very well along with the videos for the curriculum nights.
* Boosterthon kickoff tomorrow. Teachers are excited about it.
* Car line – Continues to be a difficult, unsafe situation. Would like to collaborate on something with PTO newsletter. Takes a lot longer to get through drop-off.
  + Potentially get parent volunteers to help with the car line and getting cars to move.
  + Add message to PTO Facebook page.
  + Also an issue with people parking in or blocking homes driveways. Have police start ticketing for people parking in driveways?
  + Signage along car line where to pull forward

Vaccinations

* They will be keeping track of volunteers/parents who are vaccinated and show their card – so you only have to show it once -- but people who are showing test results must bring it every time.
* Dashboard on District Page – Shows positive cases, etc.

**President’s Report**

VP of Communications

* Looking for a replacement.

PSCC – Positive School Climate Committee

* Started off as an anti-bullying group at Ogden. Then she asked all the schools to participate. The committee is working on redesigning it.
* Interfaith Community Partners – Partnering with them – make keepsakes for people in a community home – 10/11 from 1-3 @Gordon Park – They are looking for volunteers to help.
* FR budget would come from “District Projects”
* PSCC is still trying to find out what their budget is, spending, etc.

**Treasurer’s Report**

* Budget for this school year – Just under $35,000 of planned expenses but only $30,000 planned income. We are being conservative in what we’re budgeting.
* Amanda will send out an email to committee chairs with their budget and the way to submit receipts to get reimbursed. She will also let fundraising committee chairs know what their fundraising goals are based on our budget.

**Art Enrichment** (Leah Lowery) \*HER LAST YEAR AT FOREST ROAD

* Parents prepare an art lesson based on a curriculum, schedule a time with teachers to come in and teach to the students. Parents have to sign up on Signup genius that just went out.
* Volunteers must abide by directory Covid rules.
* Parents meeting in a few weeks after school for those who are signed up to go over everything.

**Ice Blast** (Leah Lowery)

* Usually done on Valentine’s Day. (This year it’s on a Monday.)
* Will make a decision on this closer to the date since they cannot eat in classrooms right now.

**Head Room Parents**

* Staci Hurley – Sign up Genius is up and was sent in Karli’s newsletter.
* Parties: Halloween, Winter, Valentine’s Day
* Halloween Parade – Only outside parade. If the weather is bad, it will be cancelled and there will be a live Zoom of classrooms just for the kids to share their costumes with other kids. Decision will be made by noon that day. Halloween parties right after.
* Parties: 2-3 volunteers per classroom. Parties must have an activity spread out and at their desks. No food at all either in the classroom or to send home. Masks have to be on at all times.
* Halloween Parties 1:30-ish (final time to come from Karli)

**Father-Daughter Dance (Katie Black and Staci Hurley)**

Rebrand: Someone Special Ball

Working on rebranding gendered events with new events while keeping participation numbers low enough for safety.

* Budgeted an event for 1st-2nd, 3rd-4th, 5th-6th (three events instead of usual two) – Can adjust this as necessary once there’s a more concrete plan. Katie and Staci will bring a plan back to another meeting.

**Toy Sale (Staci Hurley)**

Want to have it in December. Asking for gym December 2-4.

* Cannot use entire gym on Friday. Possibly half of it until after lunch is finished and cleaned up. People will not be able to walk through the building to drop off clothes. Karli suggested having volunteers meet people at the door and carry everything.
* Ideas: speak to Cossitt to see what they did for clothing sale; one day toy sale; limit number of items people can sell; limit number of people who can sell

**Boosterthon**

* Volunteers must be masked indoors or outdoors.
* Communicate outdoor classroom plan/monitor from last year. Communicate all the things we funded last year without fundraising. Communicate where our money has gone and how we’ve increased spending to items like LRC, music, PE, art, etc.
* Now, with Boosterthon being every other year, Boosterthon is trying to fund the every day PTO items and not a big ticket item unless there are huge overages or we plan over a series of years.
* Advertise needs for the school – how we’re going to keep the PTO going without cutting from other things.

**Science Center (Katie Black)**

* First meeting is tomorrow morning. They would like two parents from each school, so Katie is looking for someone to join her at the meetings.

**CEMA (Karine Otten)**

Committee for Equity and Minority Achievement

* Broke out into four different groups, focusing on (1) recruitment and retention of diverse people in teaching and administration; (2) talent development program in Dist 102 (looking at testing different students and how do different students get into TD; what is the criteria)
* Will have more to share at the next meeting.

Multicultural Night (w/ Jennie Popovic)

* Wait until the spring to potentially do it due to Covid.
* Not sure about virtual.
* Got in touch with Congress Park person to discuss their multicultural night

Diversity Book Club (w/Jamie Reed)

* Early November date

**Spirit Week**

* Is there one?
* Who does it?
* Week before Thanksgiving?