

Cobbles Elementary PTA Minutes  
March 21, 2024

Present: Cara Acker, Amanda Freeland, Mindy Staba, Nicole Doyley, Molly Menge Maguire, Lisa Tripodi, Robyn O' Grady, Alisha McNally, Joslin Buhrman, Allison Trawinski, Nicole Whitehead

Zoom: Gina Geraci, SaraJane Deisinger

Meeting called to order at 7:15 pm

Approval of January minutes: Mindy Staba, Lisa Tripodi

**BOE Report: Nicole Doyley**

- Eclipse Club presentation by high schoolers
- PHS Commons construction beginning, will continue during school
- Harris Hill security being installed this summer; summer school and reading and math labs at Cobbles this year
- Dream Lab: teaching coding basics for elementary school students, 2 teachers hired to float between schools
- Budget
  - 20 new faculty, including 1 ICOT elementary teacher and high school teachers
  - RISE (BOCES): trades
  - 3.5% tax levy increase
- Election: Meet the Candidates 4/30 at 7:00 pm, vote 5/21
- New Covid guidelines: back to school if fever free for 24 hours
- New principal at Bay Trail
- Question from parent: Class sizes at elementary level?
  - “soft caps” used: 21-22 students at primary level, 23-24 students at intermediate level

**Principal Report: Nicole Whitehead**

- In need of more parent representation for Shared Decision Making and DEI Committees, suggestion: Zoom?
- Shared Decision Making Committee
  - comprised of teachers, administrators, parents and students (students meet separately)
  - discuss climate and culture of Cobbles
  - gap analysis: strengths and needs of school, need strategies and feedback from parents
  - 2 times a month on Tuesdays 3:45-4:45 in the Cobbles Library
- DEI Committee
  - school climate action plan
  - 1 time a month on a Thursday 3:45-4:45
- AAPI Month: Korean musician presentation in May, approved by DEI, using Arts in Education funds
- Pottery artist presentation for 3-5 graders
- Only one signup for Harvest of the Month, suggestions: utilize room parents for help with signups?

- School dance request by Student Council
- Budget request for next year: Fab 5 bags for cold weather recess, each student would receive at Kindergarten orientation, multiple bags would need to be purchased by parent
- Drama Club going well, there will be a preview for students during the day
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade went to The Music Man preview at PHS

### **Teacher Report: Nicole Whitehead for Reed Sanchez**

- Teacher Appreciation Week Data
  - Monday: breakfast, Tuesday: food truck, Wednesday: candy bars, Thursday: mailbox, Friday: cookies
  - Extras: **massages, school swag**, coffee/tea/hot cocoa bar in lounge, food, **notes/letters from families in mailboxes**, chalking bus loop with kind messages, relaxing quiet time, Tree Town Café
- \*bold-multiple asks
  - notes are tough for non classroom teachers because they are sometimes forgotten
  - order ahead for food? Breaks are too short for made-to-order food
- Teacher Appreciation Week Brainstorm
  - swag doesn't have to be a t-shirt
  - notes and letters for non classroom teachers can be taken care of by students, separate by grade level

### **Committee Reports**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Moving Up 6/17: Mindy and Molly co-chairs, Seabreeze 6/18, subcommittees formed with parent volunteers, photo/video team: set up Google Form to collect photos, Candyland theme for breakfast and yearbook, received \$250 gift card from Wegmans for food, need time/buzzer to alleviate crowding during breakfast, class lists will be provided by Nicole Whitehead

Room Parent: Mindy's last year so a new coordinator is needed

Red Wings Game: Friday 6/14

Spirit Wear: basic cotton, lightweight cotton and dri-fit options for t-shirts

Jared Campbell concert suggested by Alisha McNally for beginning of next year

Screen Smart Week: 5/6-5/10, bingo boards due Wednesday 5/15, print bingo cards and distribute May 1<sup>st</sup>, should be within budget

Cobbles Care Scholarship: \$500 to winner, name due 4/15

### **Treasurer Report: Lisa Tripodi**

- check received from Clix, use funds for staff t-shirts

**PAB: Gina Geraci**

- One BOE member representative or rotating BOE member at PTA meetings? Mixed reactions from group
- Push for educators for disabled students
- An increase in harmful language at Bay Trail, ideas?
- Transportation Appreciation Day 4/23: catering by Tree Town Café, posterboards dropped off at schools for notes from students
- Increase in My School Bucks transaction fee to \$3.25: why? Check may be written and brought into school to avoid fee

Need For Volunteers! Projected PTA Board next year

- Joslin Buhrman: President
- Cara Acker: Secretary
- Lisa Tripodi: Treasurer

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 18, 2024 7:00 pm at Cobbles Library