

Pine Hill CSA Meeting Minutes

**Zoom Meeting
December 3, 2020**

Present: Tara Hourihan, Royale Abrams, Crista Mahoney, Hannah Ireland, Kaitlin Dunham, Nikki Miller, Peter Rovick, Dr. Brown, Irene Saranteas Bassalee, Ranjini Dowley, Elizabeth Speyer, Rory McGrath, Aimee Cronin, Lynn Frigiani, Julie Vitale, Monika Acharya, Gita Rousseau

Absent: Molly Cullum, Chinar Dara, Katie Garvey

Call To Order

Meeting began at 7:02pm.

President's Report – Tara Hourihan and Royale Abrams

- The 2020-2021 CSA Fundraising Campaign has kicked off, and as of this afternoon we have raised \$4350.00, on the way to \$21K. We need to send out a targeted email, but still have 2 months to get there.
- The Holiday Drive to benefit children through Project Just Because and DCF-Framingham is off to a great start. We started with 10 kids, but because those slots were taken immediately expanded to 15. We are also donating to a local DCF who are in need of toiletries, new toys and clothes of any size. Over 100 children annually are on the list from Project Just Because, requesting specific items, so there are opportunities to serve more kids through the Holiday Drive in the future. Thank you, Royale and Joanna Sanborn for organizing.
- The teacher luncheon on the Monday after Thanksgiving was catered by Wegman's this year, which was less expensive than Panera, and provided a lot of food that looked good and seemed appreciated by faculty and staff.
- Teacher Grants usually open at the beginning of January. The budget does show \$3400, with \$2200 going towards grants from the spring that hadn't been submitted. \$1200 is available for January. Dr. Brown will send the form teachers fill out to Tara for CSA records, and we can send it out to teachers. There are criteria and categories that could be updated on the form. We are encouraging teachers to think on a smaller scale this year.
- In past years, raffle basket collection and ticket sales started in January and the winners were pulled on the Friday before February break. A town permit is required so we have requested forms from Town Hall, which they are mailing. The permit is good for a full year, so there is no date we need to list. There are some questions if January is the best time for this fundraiser and this will be discussed at the January CSA meeting.
- With all students in school 4 days now, we will send out another doodle poll to move our CSA meeting times away from Wednesday when kids are at home.
- Julie Vitale sent out other ideas for fundraising, including Rounding Up for Change. The Sherborn Business Assoc. usually supports different local organizations, so we would need to determine how to do this, but it would mean businesses offer people the option

to round up on their purchases so their change is designated in support of the CSA. There was some discussion whether we should approach businesses themselves, or go through the Sherborn Business Association. Aimee and Julie will approach Catherine (Sherborn Wine and Spirits) and Ed (Rose's) who are running Sherborn Business Assoc.

- A \$200 Your Cause Donation came in today as a gift matching. This prompted a discussion on Corporate Gift Matching programs. CSA will make this more prominent in our request to encourage people to utilize this option. Aimee will add more information and instructions on the website, including the CSA PO Box.

Principal's Reports – Dr. Brown

- Dr. Brown expressed appreciation on behalf of the faculty and staff for Monday's luncheon, especially the desserts. The planning day was focused on social justice learning outcome standards, which the school wants to make sure we lift those standards for K-2, and 3-5.
- We will be moving to Phase III on Monday, December 7th. Administration is feeling confident that they can control for density and transitions, as well as general movement of students around the building. They had to tweak schedules and reorganize space, and all special educators and special subject teachers will visit classrooms, which will provide better continuity.
- Dr. Brown presented a draft Pine Hill budget request for 2022 to the central office. They took into account enrollment projections for staff increases/decreases.
- Children are so joyful, and we are constantly reminded how appreciative they are to be back in school. To that end, there will be a School Spirit Day on Monday. An announcement went out in the Pine Hill Post to wear Pine Hill gear or grade level color.
- Dr. Brown mentioned that there will be a couple of changes made on the back playground to make it fully ADA code accessible, including ground cover and paving updated.
- In response to Dr. Brown's announcements, Aimee Cronin requested photos of teachers from luncheon to post on the website, and will also support the messaging of Phase III and the upcoming Spirit Day on social media and the CSA website

Committee Updates

Events – Molly Cullum and Hannah Ireland

The fundraising campaign has begun (amount already raised is referenced in President's Report above). There will be an announcement in next week's ASM script and a flyer at school to see the prizes. We hope to have a thermometer posted at the school to see progress, but this requires extra work and because we are not allowed in the building, we don't know if it's possible to have PH staff help.

Regarding other upcoming events, the Snowman Contest will also be announced in the ASM soon. It will start with the snow and run for a month and a half. Hannah is setting a date for the cooking class with her brother. More information TBA.

Communications – Aimee Cronin and Elizabeth Speyer

Communications has added the Winter Fundraiser and donation page to the website, as well as a thermometer to update funds raised. They will add things over time. Tara will pass along meeting agendas and minutes to be posted on the website, as well. Aimee has put in \$5-10 in to have CSA social media posts more widely seen as we continue to work on upping our social media presence. Facebook is a great way to spread the word and spread joy! The new email platform will happen over time.

Aimee brought forward the idea for a Holiday Wish Tree to bring cheer and raise funds. Dowse's has donated an 8 foot tree (we will have a sign on the tree to say thank you), and we can have either solar lights or if we have access to an outlet, regular lights. Aimee hopes to find a place near the school so it's easy to plug in and be seen by the community. People can submit wishes from the community, and the CSA will charge a nominal fee to laminate and hang those wishes on the tree. Wishes can be from the entire Sherborn community, but we will target the PH community. The "Wish" can be anything, open to interpretation. There was some discussion about the best location for the tree (Jameson Field near concession stand vs. on PH property), and Pine Hill will lend a laminator for the tags. Hannah will make and hang the tags, and the town will help us put the tree up.

Treasurer – Dr. Chinar Dara (No Report)

Enrichment - Kaitlin Dunham, Lynn Frigiani

Enrichment is starting to book grade level programs. Marty Kelly will do a zoom event on Dec. 10 for grade 1. There was discussion about how to best include Remote Learning Classes in curriculum enrichment so they feel part of the PH community. When Kaitlin discussed this with Chickering, the challenge is that some of the classes are combined grades and combined schools, so it is hard to determine how it lines up with the curriculum and who is paying. Chickering has their entire budget for enrichment this year, so they are able to include everyone.

Dr. Brown encouraged the CSA to be inclusive if we can, keeping in mind that every grade-level is different. K, 1, 2-3 are combined, 4-5 are not combined. The curriculum is fairly congruent with both schools, with some different approaches to various subjects, but philosophically aligned and the standards are the same. There is nothing school specific other than Sherborn history (which technically does not fall in the standards anyway). Our numbers are small enough we should be able to add PH students to another class

Questions for the board to consider:

1. Is it expected that we do this when the increase in the number of students increases the cost, and complicates planning for programs as well?
2. Do we have approval from the board to include remote school in these enrichment programs?

Ultimately it was decided that we should try to include everyone as well.

Lynn shared an idea for ASM Meeting enrichment. The Fourth Wall is something we looked into in the past but have had complications with size before. It includes music, theater, dance, and a variety show, using zoom from 3 locations. It is a combination of live performances and short video clips, and students can vote to choose where they're going to go with the performance. The cost is \$640, tapping the budget money set aside for assemblies. Lynn will reach out to Kelly Hodge about it, as it might run over ASM time, but it could be worth it. We can also apply for an Arts Council grant for this. It was also noted that DSEF has a surplus and is looking to help out with what we are not able to cover, additional needs and new priorities during this time. There is \$1000 set aside for an enrichment program from the Sawin Fund to supplement the budget

New Families – Nikki Miller and Rory McGrath

Kindergarten families had their Q&A Zoom meeting before Thanksgiving, and grades 1-5 will have theirs next Wednesday. The committee spent time trying to generate ideas for what we CAN do instead of what we CAN'T do (ski lessons, hockey leagues, etc.) and we can include this on the CSA website. Dover Rec. had a bunch of winter activities listed that we can add to our website and newsletter in the Events section. People should email Nikki or Rory with ideas. Elizabeth Speyer shared that there is a debate class for 4-5 graders which she will forward to Nikki.

Family Friends – Ranjini Dowley and Irene Saranteas Bassalee

Ranjini and Irene provided a brief recap of Zoom Trivia Night for families, which was chaotic but successful. There were two Boston families, and five Sherborn families. They had Boston and Sherborn trivia questions and prizes were awarded. Kate Potter applied for funds from the Mudge Fund for the bus blankets so no need for CSA funds. All families/students have been matched up now, and there are also backup families lined up.

Volunteers – Katie Garvey (NO REPORT)

Pine Hill Garden – Julie Dreyfus and Kristen Susco

Julie will assess the Bird Garden in the spring to see what is growing and what is not growing. The plan is to work with 3rd grade teachers to assess the space to better use it. The 2nd grade curriculum may now be able to utilize the space, as well. Julie will continue to be mindful of budget/cost.

Other Business - Tara Hourihan

- 98 Directories were purchased online, \$1000 profit.
- Feedback on the directory included:
 - Not as user-friendly, some challenges with login
 - There is an activation code and it does expire! (Aimee will add this to the newsletter)
 - In 4th grade, Ms. Ryan's class is listed out separately in drop-down menu

- Easier to use on the computer than the phone
 - A positive note is that changes can be made during the year
- Approval of 11/4/20 Meeting Minutes - will approve via email
- Next meeting TBD to find the best day/time with the new Phase III schedule.
- Thank you to Gita and Monika who joined - both are interested in the Co-VP position.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:29pm.