

Pine Hill CSA Meeting 4/1/21

Present: Tara Hourihan, Royale Abrams, Dr. Brown, Monika Acharya, Chinar Dara, Kaitlin Dunham, Nikki Miller, Lynn Frigiani, Irene Saranteas Bassalee, Meg Siegal, Elizabeth Speyer, Hannah Ireland, Katie Garvey, Dorothy Von Herder, Wendy Eppich

Absent: Rory McGrath, Molly Cullum, Aimee Cronin, Peter Rovick, Julie Vitale, Kristen Susco, Crista Mahoney, Ranjini Dowley

President's Report – Royale Abrams and Tara Hourihan

Book Fair Results and Feedback:

- Aesop's fable hosted it this year and \$2100 was raised for the CSA.
- Was very successful and feedback was good, some wanted the in-person version too, but it was quite good with pandemic
- If we have another book fair with Aesop's Fable, it would be good to have someone dedicated to help them package and deliver the books
- Almost all teachers' wish lists were granted.

Teacher Appreciation Week May 3-7:

Teacher Appreciation Yard Signs

- Meg would like to organize the signs for teacher appreciation week. She'll create a pdf to send to community to paint your own messages, and it'll be sent before April break. People can put them in their yards, will ask businesses like Heritage if they can put some on their property. Other Dover schools are also doing it. So, will be quite festive and nice for teachers.

Teacher Appreciation Breakfast

- We'll organize breakfast for teachers. Need the date from Dr. Brown and place. Maybe we can do a sign-up genius for people to bring in things like coffee etc.

Bus Driver Appreciation:

- Treats and gift cards were given to them earlier today.

Admin Professionals Day April 21:

- Try to do something for Ms. Fedor. Monday starts pool testing, she is like this unsung hero, we appreciate her. This is a great year to recognize her.

Consider 3 positions for Communications

- This year: Elizabeth and Aimee
- Communications is heavily involved committee.
- It would be ideal to advertise for a 3rd position, so there is one dedicated for website, newsletters, social media.
- This was also an unusual year, however having specific roles within this team would be good.
- There is never ending need for social media communications

- There are by-laws requirement to number of people that can be on the Board. By-laws do need to be updated though since the Board exceeds the number already listed.

Vice-President's Report – Monika Acharya

Common shared folder:

- Monika will create and share a common folder so everyone can add their documents and below information for all positions there.
- She will share the google docs folder with board members soon.
- She will also include a template, so all the information can be kept consistent for easy transitioning.

Positions: new folks joining us – Peter as co-VP, Wendy and Brecken Schneider possibly

- It would be good to collect information for all roles and activity: What roles entails, when is expected to do, budgets approx. etc
- For each role -
 - 1) Responsibilities
 - 2) Accounts & passwords (email, website, etc)
 - 3) Vendors - along with contact person (the email & ph)
 - 4) Contact person at PH
 - 5) Approx expenses over the year
 - 6) Timing of events organized
 - 7) Items to be purchased
 - 8) Description : Include people who last updated and held the position before, so if there was question they can be reached. With email/ phone

Principal's Reports – Dr. Brown

- Happy April Fool's Day and extra credit for meeting on a long weekend
- We are rolling into full-time in person. Some families still in remote and that will continue thru the end of the year.
- Families can go back to remote whenever they want. Following Monday April 12th, will inform if they are returning back to school. 10 coming back to PH and 35 coming back to Chickering
- Faculty meeting this week, we spoke about staffing needs for next year. We posted positions on website. Our PE teacher Mr. Carnes is appointed as Chickering Assistant principal, so we are recruiting for PE.
- Preschool position, special education teacher next year.
- Classroom teachers – extended contract to Allie Morey, hiring a long term sub for 5th grade. 2 teachers out this year but returning again. 1 teacher retiring. Courtney Young taking a year off next year.
- We are left with 10 weeks for school year.
- Delighted to receive DSEF email, they had ceased the funds, but they are now they are allocating funds for next year. Outdoor classroom grant will be put forth again

and other innovative ideas might come thru. If there are any CSA/ educator ideas, we can put those forward.

- Good news from Board of Health this week. We will be able to take 5th graders to field trip to a reservation this year. Will get word out to parents. 5th graders will also get to visit the DS middle school this year.
- Time of the year to put forth budget – Operational budgets will go for vote, capital requests we are not asking this year. Town is putting forth an article. CSA might want to put out an informational article out to parents for two-way road. A lot of money (1.5M), but something to work thru emergency situations. Road work would be done during summer, if approved. Go up normal route but come down thru the Elliot St. Fire dept, police, town all are supportive.
 - Voting date is May 15.
- Stream all school meetings in classrooms for all school meeting.

Dorothea Von Herder Introduction – Sherborn Sustainability Coordinator

- She is the new sustainability coordinator. Started remotely a year ago. Job is to connect with school and reps.
- There will be district wide sustainability fair planned for this spring.
- There will be 2 webinars - zoom calls for garden and what home owners can do to improve energy efficiency.
- When is a good time for Pine Hill families? Both will be recorded though, so they can watch them later too.
- Coordinating with Julie currently.

Committee Updates

- Volunteers – Katie Garvey
 - Raffle Baskets
 - 12 baskets are ready to go. Monday will drop them off to school.
 - Front lobby will work
 - Tickets went live. Communications will get pictures to put up on website.
- Treasurer – Dr. Chinar Dara
 - Budget Updates
 - We closed the gap of income and expenses. Income was approx. 34k and expense 35k. We approved all teacher grants and paid all teacher expenses.
 - We should add a line item for bird garden, food, soils etc > we need more documentation, as this was not covered in the budget. Need approval from board members.
 - There was no budget before, the previous coordinator paid out of their pocket. 3rd grade teachers and kids loved it and would like to sustain this. We might have to replace feeders, need bird food. So need to set aside \$400 / yr line item to keep this going. Maybe

bulk purchase could save money. May be even check if families can donate food or feeders (sign-up genius).

- Question for Dr. Brown – DSEF fund is due this April (Julie’s bird garden grant) – we will resubmit that. Will contact Julie, if any tweaking required. Nothing required from Chinar right now.
- For the field trip for 5th grader, we did not budget for that – any exp for CSA? CSA does not pay for that. Between parents \$50/ child and bus expense from school, they are covered for field trip.
- Typically, there is a \$500 for the 5th grader EOY activities – but we need to check that. Dr. Brown and Chinar need to circle back on this. – we have it in our budget.
- Events – Molly Cullum and Hannah Ireland
 - Apps/Drinks Class, Scavenger Hunt
 - Natasha and Troy Clark have agreed to do the cocktail night. Around 2nd week of May.
 - For scavenger hunt – it may run a week or two
- Communications – Aimee Cronin and Elizabeth Speyer
 - Website Updates
 - Most information transferred over from old website, small items to move over, but if anything else needs to be updated send an email and we can have it updated.
 - Switch over newsletter platform, there is a mockup to keep it consistent with old newsletter
 - If Peter is coming as a co-VP and new folks joining, poll will need to be sent out.
- Enrichment - Kaitlin Dunham, Lynn Frigiani
 - Scheduled Enrichment Learning
 - 4th graders had an author visit with Jacqueline Davis. They loved it and appreciative of it.
 - 5th graders will be meet with Gregory Moon.
 - Author Peter Brown will meet entire school for all school meeting.
 - Children will interact with authors from their classrooms.
- New Families – Nikki Miller and Rory McGrath
 - No report
 - With so many houses quickly being sold, there will be new families. Dr. Brown already met 5 families.
- Family Friends – Ranjini Dowley and Irene Saranteas Bassalee
 - We have not had an event recently.
 - We would have gone over budget if we held the event.
 - We hope to have a covid conscious event (in person) in May, we encourage parents to meet on their own, either remotely or in person.
 - DS soccer – there might be 1 Boston kid joining.

- DIE (Diversity Inclusion Equity) officer – change of title in Chickering. We are not proposing, but if there is a feedback, we can. It helps support the program.
 - Minority families have experienced racism in our school system, so we need to take the necessary steps to help reduce racism and support this program
 - Dr. Brown will send information to Irene to include the information in email.
- Pine Hill Garden – Julie Dreyfus and Kristen Susco
 - Written update sent
 - We reached out to teachers to see how we could lend support this spring and received a positive response. We distributed home garden kits to the remote first grade (5 PH students and 14 CH) as well as home garden kits for all four in-person first grade classrooms. The first grade will also be planting in the raised beds the first week of April. They plan to grow two different flowers from seed, one of which will be giant sunflowers in keeping with the sunflower garden in honor of Jan Sullivan.
 - Work continues on the bird garden restoration as part of the Grinspoon grant and district wide sustainability fair planned for this spring. A clean up of the hillside garden is scheduled on Saturday April 10th with HS volunteers for community service hours. We found an arborist who is generously volunteering his time to consult before clean-up.
 - In cooperation with the third-grade team, we finalized the vision for the container-based bird observation garden on the playground side of the 3rd grade wing. The new space will use native shrubs (potted in high quality recycled rubber pots) to attract birds for window viewing. The garden will also serve as a space for pause and reflection for staff and students to sit during recess or at other times of the day. We've designed Japanese-inspired portable panels to define and protect the garden (think zen garden :-). The panels will also allow for the addition of a bird bath, nesting material, and perhaps hanging annuals.
 - Students in Ms. Sidman's room will plant the container garden in early May. Students in Ms. Ritchie and Ms. Lucey's room will build bug hotels in the hillside bird garden and complete a checklist for wildlife garden certification from the National Wildlife Foundation. They will also install the interpretive signs designed with teachers to connect with the 3rd grade curriculum.
 - A HS student completing her senior project is doing a videography on sustainable projects in Sherborn (mentored by Dorothea Von Herder). She will be documenting the restoration. The video will be part of the district-wide sustainability fair in late May and will also be featured on Sherborn's new sustainability website. We're excited to give 3rd graders a platform to connect what they are learning in school with climate change activism in the larger community.

- Box Tops, Amazon Smile, Corporate Matching – Peter Rovick
 - Just over \$100 from amazon smile. \$500 from corporate matching.

7:55 Other Business

- Next Meeting 5/6/21 @ 9 AM

8:00 Adjournment – Meeting adjourned 8.29pm