

Ocean Shore
PTO Executive Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 9, 2021 • 7:00 - 9:00 PM
MEETING VIA ZOOM - SEE BELOW

In attendance: PTO board members: Michele Tuman, Patricia Balmas, Virginia Clements, Cristin Fong, Stephanie Saylor, Jenny Abellana, Gina Smith, Carnley Nee, Krissy Zimmer, Tanya Guido, Amanda Sandberg, Ana Brenner, Jonelle Chase Staff: Jeanne Bellinger (Principal), Natalie, Michelle, Virginia, Jennifer, Jessica, Jonathan, Beccy, Sandy, Renee

- I. Welcome and Check-In Michele/Patricia
 - A. General meeting comments: Grateful for garden video. Meeting attendance peaked at 98. Meeting went well; there was a decent turn out. Appreciation noted for everyone who attended. Appreciate teachers coming and sharing their thoughts at the last meeting.
- II. Minutes: Review and Approve - January Stephanie
 - A. January minutes approved
- III. Teacher Report TBD
 - A. Permanent Additional Teacher Position on Board
 - 1. Does anyone have concerns (Board) about adding an additional teacher voting teacher position to the Board?
 - a) Cristin agreed very strongly that teacher representation is very important. Teacher perspective is valued and all voices need to be heard. To that end we need to be mindful that the purpose of PTO is to listen and make the best decisions for all, not rubber stamp. Consideration of pre-defined guidelines was also suggested (e.g., teachers to be well informed prior to meetings so they can contribute).
 - b) Clarification of intention: 1 rotating, 1 permanent to provide flexibility and different voices. The idea of having an older and younger grade teacher presented.
 - c) Jessica has concerns about taking out the rotation (but likes the younger and older idea), as it could leave out some teachers who would benefit from attending, and the Board would also benefit from different perspectives.
 - 2. Question raised: How to handle it if a permanent (teacher) member can't come. This issue is to be considered and determined.
 - 3. Ideal candidate?
 - a) Parent/teachers? Some are going to be here a while with their kids.
 - b) Teacher who is willing to get teacher input prior to meeting and then they vote for their representation. (Jonathan likens it to union rep jobs).
 - c) Natalie already attends PTO as webmaster (not a voting position), not as teacher rep (even though she functions unofficially in that capacity).
 - (1) Jessica- can we nominate Natalie? Natalie has her foot in with everyone and knows what's going on with teachers and admin, and has a good connection to teachers and all the grade levels.
 - d) PTO will leave the 'who' up to the teachers. It sounds like what we're leaning toward is a rotating position and permanent position.
 - 4. Role description: TBD

5. Vote approved to amend the bylaws to have a permanent voting teacher position in addition to a voting rotating teacher position on the executive board. Reserved further vote for job/role description approval for next time.

B. Updates on DL and Teacher Needs

1. Jonathan: One of the hardest things is he never sees these people he loves. Global perspective - everyone is tired of teaching online and he feels for the kids and feels that the burnout is coming. It is the union's perspective, as well as the task force's perspective, that teachers shouldn't go back until they are vaccinated. He's grateful for the District's caution, and the Safety plan will be presented tomorrow. He feels good about it, happy with the plan and happy they're moving forward with it tomorrow.
2. Virginia is also appreciative of the cautious approach for everyone's benefit and it takes into account lots of complexities (e.g. parents who are teachers at other schools). The kids are feeling it [pandemic learning fatigue]. We're hanging in there and trying to keep our colleagues supported as best we can. Not the best situation, but trying to make the best of it.
3. Natalie talked about SDC plan: In the hybrid plan the SDC students will be in their own cohort and mainstreaming opportunities will be available only online until it is safe to do otherwise. They cannot social distance, but that doesn't mean there won't be mainstreaming opportunities (e.g. SDC can have zoom buddies in music class, lots of different ways and opportunities). If we send them out into the school it's a health risk and then they won't have their bubble. Not willing to take that risk. Teachers are all willing to help include all the students. Mainstreaming is written in the IEP. At this time no child is getting everything they're supposed to get as it's not feasible, but all OSS teachers are willing to work together to create opportunities for mainstreaming and communication- socially distant.
 - a) School Board meeting will be tricky tomorrow; they need to communicate to these concerned parents that these kids are cared for.
 - b) Maybe we can put a blurb on the website or something appropriate once we have more info from the District.
4. Clarification about PTO money for teachers: Starting point is \$250 and negotiable if teachers need more funding or more support in any way PTO would love to fund them (\$250 has now been put into teachers detailed budget pages).
 - a) Do teachers need to have a special plan? Identify that it comes out of there?
Answer: NO. just part of your budget for you to use like classroom supplies.
5. Virtual field trip: budget is still available. Fill out the normal forms and Jeanne signs off, PTO pays for it.

IV. Principal's Report

Jeanne

A. Return to School Task Force

1. Covered above. Also, some buzz about learning "hubs" right now. We don't have a para or staffing to run a learning hub. A "hub" sounds like a lot of kids, but it would be 5-10 kids at the most. We're talking about kids who don't attend online at all (e.g. English learners), not pods and the classroom. 5-10 kids being monitored in MPR

to make sure they're doing their lessons. Jeanne doesn't know if more resources will go into getting staffing to help kids in situations like that.

2. Last meeting we went over the safety plan; posted in tomorrow's board agenda on the District website you can see the plan
https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=36030354&MI D=5532
 3. Air quality.
 - a) Gina brought up ventilation concerns.
 - (1) Jonathan is concerned too because historically it hasn't been easy to operate. He has been told it's okay now. There will be an emphasis on having doors and windows open, but during fire season when we might need to close the doors we will have to go virtual. Before this the level the ventilation will need to be checked.
 - (2) Jeanne said districts are taking it really seriously.
 - (3) Virginia bought an air filter, as she doesn't trust that the old system can be upgraded sufficiently to cover all the new concerns. She bought a large room air filter with extra filters. Our kids need what they need. "So frustrating with so many disasters to situations and concerns and we're being asked to hold our breath and think full thoughts. We need straight talk and results and people to follow through." So she took matters into her own hands.
 - (a) Jeanne will also bring that up that could be funded maybe from technology. Would be great if all the teachers could have it in their classroom. But let's check the District before hitting up PTO. It is on Jeanne's radar.
 4. State funds: Virginia asks about money supposedly to come from Sacramento to support return to schools. Could that pot support that para? Jeanne can't imagine it would be staffing related. They're going to talk about PD for teachers, programs (e.g. iready), but it is almost never staffing. She's seen this problem over and over.
 - a) Jonathan said Sacramento money is not new money, but rather just switching next year's money to use now. But then there won't be money next year. Disappointing.
 5. PSD Agreed to hire one more custodian for each school site, so we have additional custodial staff for cleaning. They are still working it out.
- B. Posting and hiring P.E.
1. Position created and posted but we don't have a PE teacher yet. Jeanne doesn't know if John applied. Job was posted and closed today, and she has emails out to make sure he applies. Hoping to have more info from HR tomorrow to see if he or anyone else applied.
- C. Curriculum Enhancement Committee [Deadline: 2/26/21; Committee Meeting: 3/5/21]
1. Michelle has talked to teachers and given them the deadline. Committee teacher members: K-2 Michelle, Renee 3-5, Natalie maybe 6-8 and special education. Also trying to recruit 3 parents from those grade groups who are not teachers and are not on the Board. Need: 2 board members (treasurer plus 1), 3 teachers, and 3 parents. Cristin will send out in an ombud blurb.

V. Treasurer's Report

Michele/Patricia

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1421CREtrUqPfYFd5pQ260B-GFGhPix3IwlhVla22zmw/edit?usp=sharing>

A. Current Budget Status

1. As a whole, not a lot of movement, in or out. Would like to get up to date with teachers (i.e. receipts) so we can plan. Haven't received that much in fundraising, which is expected and ok. Need to look into developing policies for dipping into rainy day funds so we can use it for teachers and next year. Board wants to support teachers; teachers informed to bring asks to the Board, so we can make it happen if we can. Overall, budgets are being spent pretty conservatively with teachers. In good shape, but not spending a lot right now.

B. Library Request for Funds.

1. Scholastic book faire not bringing in the annual approximately \$5000 this year that is relied on to fund the library. In fact, the library has made almost nothing. The library needs more bookshelves. Asking for PTO to supplement book faire.
 - a) PTO would like to add a library line item in the annual budget to increase the quality of the book faire (not Scholastic). This would provide better quality books, but might not bring in as much revenue.
 - b) The library doesn't currently have PTO guaranteed funding, and no other source of funding that they can count on (unlike music, art, science). They are a self-funding island to themselves. Historically, they run a tight budget and have been ok with \$5,000 book faire.
 - c) For this year, can we do a \$5,000 line item for the library? Question asked: Does it make sense to fund now, with the limited funding we have and that we don't know what's next? Anxiety expressed from the Board regarding spending money now, because we don't have significant money coming in. A discussion regarding this anxiety and PTO rainy day fund status explained. PTO is fortunate to have a 2 year rainy day fund reserve (due to financial complexities of getting money out of a past fund due to the transient nature of a PTO board and due to prior boards not budgeting to spend the money they had at the time). We're now in a place where we need this emergency fund; we have a budget and can afford to spend within that budget (instead of making cuts). Families have given their money for their kids' programs and classrooms, and they want their kids to benefit from it.
 - (1) Motion passed to move \$5,000 out of 'held in advance' to make a new line item for the library. \$5,000 for this year only. We will revisit the amount needed next year.

C. RTS (<https://www.rapetraumaservices.org>) Statement for General Meeting

1. Presentation was awesome. They've invoiced what it would cost (for a profit entity), and asked for donation and provided breakdown (e.g. facilitation, prep, material, travel mileage, and time). Seems like a prepared invoice not tailored to what they actually did this time. We should give them something like the \$500 that we usually do for assemblies. Seems more reasonable since it was an hour online. They are an amazing resource and we want them back so we want to provide their non-profit a respectable amount commensurate to donation to non-profit assembly.
 - a) What line item to use - donation or assembly? Decision to use Assemblies fund.

- b) Motion passed to pay \$500 to RTS from the assembly budget passed.
- VI. Ombud/Parent Representatives Report TBD
- A. Staff Appreciation Plan
1. Options: Treats heavy in one week in May or would teachers prefer to spread out through the rest of the year? Polling teachers present.
 - a) Spreading out would hit more teachers in this present situation. But teachers will come in for food. Sandwiches and burritos are popular.
 - b) Spreading out and giving head's up would be better. Lunches.
- VII. Fundraising Jenny/Gina
- A. Fundraising Goals for Spring: All in agreement that focus should be on fun rather than raising money.
- B. Spring Events
1. Paint Nights: March 20 and April Spring break set up with Jeff Wong, Pacifica Scenery, 10-15 adults/kids, working out supplies.
 2. Family Fun Trivia Night (TBD): April or May, \$325 for 60 mins and charge \$20/screen or free and ask for donation.
 3. Build-a-Mascot (TBD): April or May, maybe more popular with younger kids, like build a bear but blue and white dolphin, get the stuffie, get the stuffing, maybe there's a teacher who wants to lead the build and facts about dolphins. Maybe charge \$25 dolphins.
- C. 2021-2022: Brick Fundraiser, still determining where to inform the rest of the details (e.g. what kinds and how many).
- VIII. Presidents' Report Michele/Patricia
- A. Art-a-Thon Committee (March - Arts Educ. Month)
1. Michele had preliminary meeting with Amy Cole Farrell and director of Sanchez Art Center regarding the Art-a-Thon. The plan is a community-wide Art-a-Thon (like move-a-thon) where teachers don't have to drive the projects through the classrooms. PEF is on board as well. Collaboration with Sanchez and local artists for art education in March; final art projects which be recorded and placed on the District website. The theme for this year is, "Here Comes the Sun." Looking at selecting renowned artists for styles, and Sanchez local artists will create some education about how to paint in those genres, using items from home to create a piece of art with the family that can be submitted. Hoping this will be a pilot program, such that every year this event can take place to combine local artists, education, and community. Information will go out through Ombuds. Teachers will be totally hands off, so as not to create any burden to teachers. Hopefully businesses around the community will also post to advertise about it. Also thinking of creating google spreadsheet for an art share of extra home supplies, with community access for sharing.
- B. General Meeting Debrief
1. The meeting went well. Breakouts were great. Michele went to RTS and really appreciated the presentation. Hoping to get their slide deck to send out and post to OSS website.
- C. PTO Handbook Update

1. https://osspto-my.sharepoint.com/:o:/g/personal/treasurer_osspto_org/ErQx8WneC9AtX8z7sbjVWUBuL95Oo0XG9OgvbJSeJ-iWg?e=wKnPk
 2. Breaking up tasks by people to help update this document. We cannot have parent contracts for hours anymore. Need to change language to be more in line with current standards. The document is broken up by different pages, and Presidents are hoping people will sign up to take ownership of a part. Goal for update by April to pass it on to the next board. Bylaws will also need revising.
- D. Spiritwear Pass Down
1. Michele would like to start a project where gently used spiritwear that students have outgrown is passed down to kids who otherwise might not be able to purchase spiritwear. Teachers might be in a good position to pass those down to their kids.
- E. 8th Grade Graduation Fund
1. Fundraising is a problem for the 8th grade classes. All of the normal fundraising events have been cancelled due to Covid (e.g., popcorn). How can the students earn? Need to consider what can be done for next year.

Upcoming Important Dates:

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Mission Statement

OSS's collaborative learning community of teachers, parents, students and staff form a working partnership to enrich the educational experience for the children. Because of this partnership, the school is able to provide an experiential learning process that is enhanced by cross-aged interaction, field trips, project-based learning, and community involvement. Each child's individual potential is maximized to foster a positive self-image, life-long love of learning, and strong critical thinking skills.

Vision Statement

Ocean Shore School students grow to be caring people who embrace diversity and are environmentally and socially responsible. They are curious and enthusiastic learners who develop strong academic and life skills. OSS students are critical, independent thinkers who are engaged members of society.

ZOOM INFORMATION:

Topic: Executive Board Meeting

Time: February 9, 2021 07:00 PM

Mar 9, 2021 07:00 PM

Apr 13, 2021 07:00 PM

May 11, 2021 07:00 PM

Jun 8, 2021 07:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91669174404?pwd=MFhVY09NUUpWM0U5TktzUndkemdiUT09>

Meeting ID: 916 6917 4404

Passcode: 568402