

Thornell Road PTSA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday November 10, 2019 9:00 AM

Attendees: Kristin Bergholtz, Megan Bonafonte, Gina Brown, Erin Chimento, Roger DeBell, Colleen Emmons, Sadie Szrama, Andrea True, Emily Waller, Jennifer Simpson, Hillary Bobys

Called to order: 9:03 AM by Gina Brown

Thank you everyone for coming.

Thank you to everyone who participated in Light the Loop, it was a really fun event and there were lots of happy faces that night. Hopefully it will become a new annual tradition.

TRE Thornell Road Spirit Wear sale:

- Mr. DeBell wanted to do a special logo to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the school. Mr. Tom has done the last few logos and Roger asked him to create something new so the sale will feature that design. We will offer both the standard TRE logos and the special 50th anniversary logo.
- Currently there is a supply chain demand issue because so much stuff is coming from overseas, hopefully we won't have too much trouble getting items.
- Probably won't have stuff available before Christmas.
- Suggestion: re-usable shopping bags.
- In terms of profit, spirit wear is actually a good money-maker for the PTSA.

Budget:

- Gina asked if everyone had a chance to review the budget and if anyone had any questions.
 - One question was raised re: the money budgeted for the passports for International Day. At this time we are unsure where that project stands and what we will be able to do so we will cross that bridge when we get to it.
- District Wide we have some estimated numbers from fundraising week. Gina expects that when it is all tallied we probably raised about half of what the Super Sale brought in.
 - Light the Loop - we expect that we raised \$3,000.00
 - Super Sale - expected that we raised \$11,000
 - Pittsford Strong Spirit Wear expected that we raised \$1,000.00
- Visiting Author: Erin Chimento asked about the visiting author and the spelling bee. In the past there was someone who ran the spelling bee and we need someone to pick up the leadership for that if we want it to continue. Also, there have been logistical issues with having a place to hold the spelling bee because it conflicts with the ASE program. We had also discussed doing a talent show that might be more inclusive of the school community.
- **2020-21 Budget was approved unanimously**

Roger DeBell:

- 20% testing in school. At this point there are a lot of questions and not a lot of answers. He is hopeful that we will be able to get through this without having to move to a remote option but we will do the best that we can.
- Roger sent an email out last week to help people get in the right frame of mind for remote parent-teacher conferences.
- Drop-off/Pick-up has been going really well and they have received a lot of positive feedback which really helps to keep everyone going.
- Celebrating the November 7, 1971 - cornerstone of the building was laid.
 - They think that there is a box behind the cornerstone, and there has been some discussion of doing a time capsule and adding our items to the existing memories.
- Next Spirit Wear Day, the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, will be miss-match day. Wearing costumes at the end of October was a big success, kids had a lot of fun.
- Roger reminds all parents that if any kids need any type of support that is aside from the regular curriculum that there are support people here to help them.

Teacher Appreciation: Virginia Hartman & Beth Deehan are the chair of this committee.

- We'd like to do something for the teachers & staff to show our thanks. Gina would like to come up with a couple of ideas to present to Roger to see what we can/can't do. Roger encourages us to remember that it is the little things that really mean a lot.
- Some ideas that have been discussed:
 - Virginia Hartman had an idea: reaching out to families who drop off to have people who drop off decorate their cars in appreciation/thank you posters.
 - TRE masks for teachers
 - Snacks in the teacher lounge.
 - Megan Bonafonte offered to go to BJ's to buy snacks/drinks to get this going. Plan is for Megan and Gina to go in at the end of the day on Friday to get items dropped off/set up so that it is set to go Monday morning when teachers come in. They will bring a little sign and Roger will send an email out to staff to let them know.
 - Hand-warmers for recess coverage
 - Erin asked what has been done in the past that was the quickest/easiest thing to do in light of the looming micro-cluster concerns.
 - Suggested trying to do something on Wednesdays because teachers stay at the school after the kids go home.
 - Building a bouquet - provide a bunch of bulk flowers that teachers can select flowers of their choice to bring home.
 - There are three picnic tables in the courtyards that teachers can use, teachers are eating in their cars, sitting in corners in the hallways, etc. Every spot is being used.
 - We will also start collecting notes to put together a thankfulness board so that kids can submit notes/pictures to be posted in the teachers' lounge.
 - Maybe do a 50th anniversary coffee mug as a teacher-gift.

Science Action:

- Rachel Nichols has done an amazing job with trying to figure out how to incorporate science action curriculum into the classrooms this year keeping in line w/ all COVID restrictions. Rachel created a proposal that Mr. DeBell forwarded to the central office team and waiting for approval.

Diversity & Inclusion:

- Thank you to Emily Waller & Sadies Szmara for getting the book suggestion out to families.
- Book club is coming up.

Eblast:

- Getting a lot more content submitted for more people.
- Kristen Bergholtz suggested that Mrs. Hems or Mrs. Wells might be able to submit something to help parents support kids with mindfulness and supporting their mental health as well.
- Suggested brief introduction to counseling staff for parents who are not familiar with them and what types of support are available.
- Provide links to the COVID support on the District page to help people know where resources are available.
- Suggested doing staff/teacher profiles to highlight each month so that families get to know them.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:25 AM