PTA Board Meeting - January 15, 2020

Meeting convened at 6:08pm

Attendees: Charrise, Keri, Elizabeth, Kiana, Margaux, Genevieve, Norah, Ben, Neeraj, Chloe, Francine

Keri made motion to approve minutes. Teacher seconded. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report – Neeraj

Neeraj said we were in a good place financially and encouraged spending. Norah explained that when it comes to expenditures, there will be end of school spending for next year as well as spending for professional development. There were some examinations and suggestions regarding the fundraisers. The Annual Fund is currently at $96K and the target was $120K. It is unlikely that we will reach this number. The savings from the Rising Together restructuring will help to cover the gap. The Tree Sale did $114K which exceeded last year’s goals, and the Spring Gala is ahead because of early ticket sales. Genevieve suggested a Fundraiser chair should be appointed to analyze these 3 major fundraisers and how to maybe shift expectations. Neeraj said this would be a Treasurer role.

Norah suggested a prebudget working session be formed to analyze each fundraiser which will not have to present to the Board. The second half of March was the target time.

The Teacher Appreciation line item includes t-shirts and 2 faculty parties.

There was a gap in the Social Emotional Learning because of how the payroll is handled with Innovation Learning. They bill Brent, Brent pays, so there is a time lapse reflected in the budget.

Annual Fund – Genevieve (Tara out with flu)

Despite great efforts, the Annual Fund most likely will not reach its goal of $120K. There will be another push to drive participation. Room parents will send out the email. There will be another effort to reach out to families who did not contribute. Another issue this year was large donors in the past, gave less.

Community Events – Genevieve

A Game night at the Legion was suggested for February 13th. Labrynth was a possibility to come out and run it. A portion of the proceeds from food and drink would go to Brent PTA. Margaux had an idea to do Miracle Theatre which would provide pizza and movie for a fee. There was a discussion about renting a big screen and showcasing a movie in the Multipurpose Room. Some issues were pricing and licensing of the movies.

GALA

There will be further discussion about Resources at the January 29th community meeting. Norah says she can explain the importance of fundraising and a member of PTA Board can request to give.

Revamping Teacher Appreciation Week – Francine

Francine presented a proposal to the Board for Teacher Appreciation Week. Brent, in the past, didn’t formally acknowledge national teacher appreciation week because of the Park exam. Due to this, Brent
celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week on a different week. Issues with this were no other teachers are celebrating, so Brent lost the communal aspect. It was difficult for parents to remember which activity applied to which day. Francine suggested to streamline and make this week more simple. For example:

- Tuesday: coffee and breakfast
- Wednesday: bring teacher their favorite
- Thursday: Lunch for teachers
- Friday: write teacher a note

Since National Teacher Appreciation Day falls on the week of Memorial Day, Monday is exempt. Norah said it was OK to fundraise for this event.

There is a favorite list of teachers likes which can be helpful for parents during this week. Birthdays would be added to this list and a staff roster would be shared. It was also suggested that this event be linked to the holiday gift.

**LSAT - Kiana**

Kiana said topics of discussion were the modernization project, report cards, enrollment numbers, and listening sessions. Norah said the listening sessions have concluded and were highly attended. Currently, summaries are being written and shared with 4 members of each of the Parent Leadership Group committees.

**SIT – Ben and Norah**

Norah believes the Modernization sessions need to occur in phases and have many opportunities for questions and answers. January 29th meeting will discuss the modernization project in depth. February will be a follow up Q and A. Norah plans on having 2 scheduled Principal coffees dedicated to this. Norah said it is important that we move in a unified manner. She proceeded to give detailed explanation about the modernization. The ideal target date is early 2021 or summer 2021.

Genevieve asked how can the PTA engage the community in this project. Norah said it is already being discussed in open houses for incoming families. We can ask people to join forums and ask questions. It is important that we stay on message.

**Communications – Genevieve**

Charrise will email Norah and Denise about the website.

February 6th is the date of the first book club meeting. The Dutch House is the book of choice.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42.