

Sunset Ridge/Middlefork School PTO

Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 9am

Virtual Zoom PTO Minutes

Meeting Called to Order: Bridget Kennedy, 9:02am

Approval of minutes: Erica Marinello and Yena Levinson

Administration Reports:

Dr. Ed Stange, District 29 Superintendent of Schools

Metrics are up in our area. Around 11.5% test positivity rate and 1800 per 100k. Starting to trend down though.

We have had 50 students and 11 staff test positive since we started our break in December. 98% of staff and 82% of students are vaccinated.

43% of our cases are unvaccinated kids.

We have increased our mitigation strategies for now.

Right now we have a good stock of rapid antigen tests but the state is beginning to limit them so if we have a big testing increase we may run into a shortage.

We do not have the staff to implement SHIELD testing.

IDPH said you should not be going remote because of your test positivity rate. You should only go remote if you have an outbreak or a staffing issue. If it happens in our district, it will likely be on a classroom level.

President's Report:

Bridget Kennedy, PTO President

We are still looking for a couple more people to help with the winter benefit. Devon Pearce and Ange Oliver are running the event. We need help with fundraising.

When you have completed a PTO board position, please update the summary of your position so that it is easier to transition next year.

The book fair will be in late April/early February.

Treasurer Report:

Yena Levinson, Treasurer

\$91,728.01 in the bank.

If you have any checks, please cash them.

Committee Reports:

Hillary Bufalino, Parent Connections

We did not have a meeting last month. Next month we will hear an update on COVID as well as strategic planning. Please join us next Tuesday at 9am.

Erica Marinello, Sunset Ridge Author Visits

7th and 8th grades have not had author visits yet. We are working to get one scheduled.

4th, 5th and 6th grades will have a virtual visit on 2/14 with Kelly Yang. They will also all receive a copy of her new book when it is released in March.

Patricia Gainsberg, Alliance for Early Childhood

There are a number of parent events coming up. Look on the website for more information. We also have an event coming up for educators and they will receive credit if they attend.

Community Update:

Bill Lustig, Northfield Chief of Police

It is budget time at the Village.

The new officer is now on his own.

We had an officer retire so we are in the process of hiring a new officer.

When you see something that concerns you, call us right away.

Car dealerships in the area continue to be burglarized.

We went into a soft lockdown at Middlefork School a few months ago. We found the person who made the threat and he went into a mental health program. He has since been released and has made numerous calls to a local business. We have a warrant for his arrest.

Administration Reports (cont.):

Jennifer Kiedaisch, Middlefork Principal

We did "13 Days of December" in both Middlefork and Sunset Ridge schools. Administration scheduled school wide activities for both staff and students.

We are kicking off our Distinguished Dolphins program. Positive behavior will be recognized on a classroom level.

Kindergarten registration is coming up at the end of January.

The Kindergarten winter sing will be recorded this week and shared with families.

Traffic has been very backed up during pickups because of the cold weather.

Dr Sukenik was unable to join us but wanted to pass along the following:

SRS is focusing on the value of perseverance this month.

Journalism club is beginning this week.

1/28 will be 8th Grade Picture Day.

School Board Report

Abigail Joseph

The finance committee meets tonight at 5:30pm. We will be discussing the 5 year projection plan.

Board meeting tonight at 7pm. Will be discussing strategic planning. Approving district calendar. Discussing enrollment.

We are analyzing data on a month to month basis on enrollment and class sizes. It is not a board level decision on whether to add or remove a class on a grade level. It is up to school administration.

Virtual Zoom Meeting Adjourned: 9:45am

Minutes compiled by: Allison Gaetano, Secretary