

Fyle Parent Group Meeting Minutes

9/16/20

Attendance: Shannon Ledwith, Nikki LaPlaca, Katie DeLaVergne, Marcy Mooney, Jessica Wackerman, Mande Carlson, Deborah Williams, Carrie Nicholas, Carrie Silva-Martin, Danielle Vincente, Rebecca Lepel, Amy Lynch and Darren Easton.

Meeting began 6:06pm

Introductions were completed. Parents are reminded to utilize the Fyleparentgroup@gmail.com email address to contact parent groups with any suggestions, questions or concerns.

Transitioned into a summary of the parent group. For the time being this year's meetings will be all virtual using zoom. This will be in effect until given permission to meet in the building by the superintendent. The dates, times and link to access will be posted in the Fyle parent group Facebook page under events and in Marcy Mooney's enews.

There are numerous district committees with current or upcoming vacancies due to families moving on to fourth grade. Please let the parent group know if you have any interest in joining a committee. To find the details about meeting times and purpose of the meetings you can go to the district web page under the parents tab and utilize your school calendar.

- District Parent Advisory Council (3 vacancies)
- Multicultural parent advisory group (1 vacancy)
 - Danielle volunteered to be the first of 2 reps
- Instructional Space Committee (1 vacancy)
 - Deborah volunteered to be the first of 2 reps
- School Improvement team (2vacancies)
 - This is an in person group at Fyle 3x/year

Jesssica Wackerman is the current treasurer. This is her last year. Katie DeLaVergne has expressed interest in being the treasurer. Inquiry for any other interest was met with silence. Danielle Vincente motioned for Katie DeLaVergne to be the co treasurer for the current school year. Shannon Ledwith seconded the motion. Vote was passed with 8 in favor and 0 opposed.

There is \$861.69 in scholastic dollars that needs to be used by 9/30/20 or it disappears. There was discussion around what the money could be used for. Some suggestions included going towards PARP books, dividing among the teachers to use as needed in their classrooms to supplement pre existing material and buying books to use as prizes throughout the school year. After the discussion was complete, Deborah Williams motioned to use the expiring scholastic dollars for the teachers use for the classroom. Shannon Ledwith seconded the motion. Vote was passed and all were in favor with none opposed. Any remaining funds will be utilized to buy books for prizes for events through the year.

Discussion about RLA teachers no longer being housed in the same building as the rest of Fyle teachers and how strange it is. These teachers are missed and the remaining teachers are planning to do something to show they are missing them.

So far this year the Parent Group has hosted a staff luncheon on the first day teachers were back to school. We stocked the fridge and pantry with snacks and drinks and had a “Card My Yard” out front of the school to show our support for the teachers.

We are looking for ideas for virtual events to help continue our community feel we have had in years past. We spoke about the Boo bash and the welcome back ice cream social that we normally have so Kindergarten parents would have some historical information. Ideas for events suggested were a virtual bingo night, virtual game night and a halloween costume contest. Any other suggestions please send to Fyleparentgroup@gmail.com.

Additional concerns expressed surrounding keeping kids safe but busy and engaged and having fun during recess and other free time. This year poses a new challenge with the inability to share supplies. The school is in a difficult position of only being able to purchase things through a specific catalog which has an astronomical mark up (example was given of Bins which cost 1\$ at the dollar store cost 5\$+ through the catalog). Because of this many teachers have been using their own money to buy more reasonably priced options for the students to use. As you can imagine, this adds up. And already they are running out of Sidewalk Chalk and Bubbles. Discussed possibility of having a collection for Recess items. These could be new or gently used items. They would be “quarantined” then disinfected before being put in circulation. Looking into putting together a list of suggestions for donation, coming up with a drop off location and the option of parents just sending cash or check if they prefer to do that.

Budget was reviewed. Due to Covid restrictions we were unable to sell save around books this year. This is a large income generating fund raiser. We did not have the ice cream social and we won't be having the Boo Bash so those will not be costs. We have numerous other current or upcoming fundraisers.

- Spirit wear. Sales are open. 10% of all sales go to the Parent group.
- Book Fair will be online only in October. Some discussion about how to get kids involved in picking out books that interest them when it is all online. Might consider having kids explore the book fair as an assignment on a wednesday and maybe write a “persuasive” piece about what book they want (falls into curriculum)
- Leo's Pies is 11/2-11/16 with online orders only. Pick up will be 12/16 with location TBD.
- Restaurant fundraisers from prior years are not currently supporting fundraisers. However there are a couple of local restaurants that have expressed interest in supporting our school and our group (Blaze Pizza and Nann-tastic) We will be reaching out to them to see what our options are.

Guest Speaker- Marcy Mooney

Began with a thank you from the teachers to the parent group for the luncheon and filling the fridge. This was very appreciated and the luncheon allowed the teachers to sit outside in their

lawn chairs during lunch that day reconnecting as opposed to everyone going off in their own directions to get lunch somewhere else.

Discussed that all the preparations before school were worth it because processes have been running smoothly. Drop off and pick up were an area of concern because of so many kids getting rides to school. Kids have been doing a great job with masking and seem to be having fun despite all of the new restrictions.

This year's motto is "Go for the Gold.. Be a Learning Champion" based on a book, Winners Never Quit, by Mia Hamm. It's all about setting goals and perseverance. It will also tie into the 5 PBIS traits.

Virtual days are going to look a little different then the spring. Kids are going to be held accountable for doing work. They will be marked absent for 2 days in a week for no participation. Minimal participation may get them one absence. Reasonable participation will get them credit. Teachers will have office hours and small groups/1:1 on Wednesdays.

Please do the Health Screen. Marcy and health office staff spend at least an hour a day completing ones not done at home. The format of this will change in the future, but please just do it.

Possibility of starting a Friends of Fyle committee to organize community donations.

School Board updates by School Board member Nikki Laplaca.

Opening seems to have gone well in the district. Goals have been repositized. The first is equity and inclusion. The belief is that if this is met the other goals will fall into place easier. The other 3 goals are mental wellness, instruction and special education. More details on these can be found on the district web page. All board meetings are live streamed.

The floor was opened for any questions and none followed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:14pm.