

Central PTO Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Friday, 04/03/2020

LOCATION: Zoom

IN ATTENDANCE: Maxie Clark, Deirdre Franklin, Michele Giczewski, Trisha Kocanda, Holly Miller, Maureen Miller, Christine Morse, Megan Panje-Wilson, Brie Root, Mishy Shinall,

Open dialogue about experiences:

- One central repository - for feedback ?
- Early access to learning plans so parents can more easily support kids
- First and foremost staff and families health first with a balanced look.

Trisha Kocanda Update

- High level and communication that is coming today
- Local level - administration team and school board and working together and township working with group
- Federal level - around special education
- Trying to work and manage all 3 levels Special ed is the slowest to give guidance.
- We do not have to make up any days and they are all called remote learning days.
- Follow hierarchy of needs - food, social emotional and academic Thought to what some of the special events will look like?
- 8th grade graduation
- Adventures in Learning
- There is a component of a grieving process
- Remote learning for the rest of the year
- All teachers still on from 9 - 3
- Academic schedule will be from 9 - 1 with breaks in there
- 1:00 -3:00 teacher office hours
- 6 hours in front of a screen is not a good thing
- Academic block times dispersed Keep remote learning M - Thursday.
- Then: Monday is grey day will be some learning with themes - and push out to families to work on this
- Independent work on Mondays to save planning days during the school year.
- Concern raised was consistency in each class and at a minimum the following should happen:
 - Morning meeting check in
 - Academic check in
 - Communication plan
- Phase 2 remote learning for elementary not much a change
- Teachers asked to connect with kids at least 3x per week (continue)

- Example - learn from experts - Idea for core subjects the teacher puts up their name instead of faces so it's less distracting
- Guidelines will be provided for kids with special services
- Guidelines and set expectations
- Some will reach out direct with families for example devices
- The anticipation is that they will carry over and or practice beyond 1:00
- Afternoon - more special ed connections
- Q: How can we make teachers feel appreciated from the student and parent community?
- R: From PTO is there a way that we can do appreciation.
- What can we do to build them up
- Is there a way for the PTO to help, for example, room parents to provide positive feedback.
- -notes to teachers
- -recordings on seesaw
- -send e-Gift cards
- -engage local restaurants
- Every teacher gets a gift card (Christine)
- Brie and April - have a 1:00 with their Exec
- Room parents to organize and support the teachers (4 things to outweigh 1 bad thing)
- Suggesting a car parade of teachers? (Missy)
- Consider enrichment in the communication plan - even adding a reading book list by grade

Missy requesting feedback

- Marla's Lunch - donate lunch orders that already have been made the the NT Food Pantry
- Greeley - Extend this to other schools. You can donate your credits and you can purchase more. Easy school based for locals.
- Other lunch programs? HW has Kiddos and they will let you use the credits for the next school year.
- Skokie has Sproutville and will also allow for credits into next year

School supply list?

- -Christine has all information gathered at Crow Island and just need to communicate the order process
- Question to other PTO presidents? Should she communicate to other parents?
- What type of communication from the school PTOs to the school community?
 - Greeley - started Instagram account. Could something be added to it?
 - HW has provided newsletters. An example is Mayfest will be canceled and they will hold off on the communication And using room parents for the contacts

- Skokie /Washburne - has not done anything.
 - Only push out when events warrant it

Grey days -

- How to support families and communities
- Example, two working households, positive messaging
- Share grey day ideas NOW
- Keep simple with enough theme and clarity around it with common sense

Consider an all district read (Megan)

One Book One School initiative (already exists)