

ROCKY MOUNTAIN ACADEMY OF EVERGREEN PTO

January 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes

6 pm

Attendees: Erin Parrett (President), Valerie Hartford (Vice President), Jill Jachimek (Communications Director), Kate Blaney (Secretary), Lisa Warren (Treasurer), Dr. Ann Hudson, Adam Rogers, Cody Knopf, Brittany Pegues, Abby Irons, Camille Tucker, Darren Reinstein, Kirsten Fisher, Stephanie Petersburg

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting began at 6:05 pm via Zoom
2. **Minutes** – December 2020 PTO meeting minutes were approved (Jill/Darren) and will be sent to Tiffany Fontaine for posting to the RMAE website
3. **Principal's Update (Dr. Hudson)**
Dr. Hudson gave an update on the progress of the multi-purpose building. Information relayed to the PTO included the following:
 - The goal is for the building to be large enough to have a full-size middle school basketball court that can be rented out in the future
 - The building will also to include a portable stage, as well as a gym facility with indoor storage
 - The RMAE Facilities Committee is currently working on site planning and permitting
 - If all goes to plan, the goal is to break ground in June and do the heavy part of the build in summer so that come fall, only the indoor needs to be completed
 - The building will go where the current playground is located, so that will move to another location, possibly up by the field
4. **Treasurer's Summary (Lisa)**
 - No updates
5. **Community Events:**
Current/Old
 - Book Fair (Lauren/Erin) - No updates available yet.
 - Staff Gifts - Jill provided a summary of how monetary staff gifts were collected, tabulated, and distributed to staff prior to the winter holiday break.
 - Staff Celebration - Kate provided a summary of the staff celebration that was conducted on January 5, including breakfast, coffee, and gifts to all staff members (41 total staff members) and highlighted the use of all local businesses to show our support.

Upcoming Events

- Food for Parent/Teacher Conferences - Dr. Hudson noted that in the past, when conferences took place on a single evening at the school, dinner was a great idea for staff, especially with them having to be there for so long. Now that conferences are spread over a period of days, it doesn't make sense to have a dinner planned. We will put this on the back burner in the event that conference format changes in the next year.
- Community Service Day - Dr. Hudson noted that it would be a bit more challenging to conduct this event this year. There would have to be requirements due to COVID, including the following: by

classroom/cohort only, no transportation permitted, and possibly over a couple of weeks vs. in a single day. Jamie Brand has been the coordinator for this event in year's past, so we should reach out to her to gather her thoughts on conducting this event this year to continue our alignment with the RMAE virtue of community service.

6. Ongoing Business

- Mentor Program - Jill gave a quick summary of the New Family Mentor Program (NFMP), including how the need was identified, how she received support from Dr. Hudson and Tiffany Fontaine. She noted that Stephanie Petersburg has volunteered to serve as the Chair of this program and that more information would be coming out in the Grizzly Growl to begin identifying families that would like to participate as mentors in the future. Other items discussed include the need to identify and price out logo items to provide as swag to new families, the need to work with Lisa to come up with a budget for this program, and that Dr. Hudson will donate car decals to the program.
- Wild Game Drive in Movie Fundraiser - Kate provided a summary of the idea (i.e. pay fee to Wild Game for movie/staff, auction off each of the 15 car spots for movie viewing, families can purchase food/beverage as they choose) and the decision to hold off on this fundraiser until the weather is a bit more predictable and not quite as cold given it would be an outdoor event.
- Safety and Security Program - Valerie provided a summary of the new program that is currently under development (i.e., an informal safety program run by parent volunteers that includes outdoor monitoring of the school) and noted that next year, we will possibly transition the program to a full WatchDOGS program at RMAE. Other topics discussed included: possible use of visor name signs for ease during pick-up (Dr. Hudson noted that current signs provided aren't consistently used and that it may have been helpful to have a bigger push on their use at the beginning of the year; the visor signs would be a good addition for next school year, if necessary), Jeremy Myers will serve as one of the parent volunteers to lead this, the Richards will be donating vests and Kate to work with them on obtaining, and the possibility of safety parent patrols assisting with dismissal (Dr. Hudson to get back with us on this). We also discussed the need to identify volunteers and use of the Grizzly Growl to get it started.

7. Next Meeting: February 17, 2021 6 pm - Zoom

8. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm

Minutes compiled by Kate Blaney, PTO Secretary