**PTO**

**Webster Middle School - Parent Teacher Organization**

**Approved minutes from**

**Webster PTO Meeting – September 15, 2020**

**7:00pm, Virtual Zoom Meeting**

* Call to Order – called at 7:02pm
* Attendees: Principal Tony DeRosa, Vice Principal Dan Reinert, Sarah Enwald, Karen Miorin, CJ Plante, Melanie Plante, Jennifer Robinson, Cori Kaminsky, Mary DeLone, Tricia Hotchkiss, Amy Wetzel & Lisa Eickberg
* Approval of June 2020 minutes – 1st motion: CJ Plante, 2nd motion: Cori Kaminsky
* Principal’s Report
  + Pre-school picture days – went very well, big rush the first few hours. Makeup date 9/30.
  + First week of school in the books – accomplishments, challenges, changes to be made, staff feedback – Great first week back at school, kids, staff and parents have been awesome, good to be back in the building. Scheduling was the biggest challenge, there were some changes, but not many once school started. Mornings are very calm, kids leave classroom less because they don’t need locker items, water fountains are off, etc.
  + Backpacks – water bottles, lunches and chromebooks take up lots of space. Soon winter coats, etc. Will probably have to open up lockers, but not allow going unless for lunch or coat.
  + Were doing staggered releases from class, 1/3 of alphabet at a time, but just resulted in bottlenecks at next class, so are going to stop this.
  + Lunch – 36 tables with 4 at a table, each grade divided into two groups. B Lunch gets less time, so going to flip once in a while to make it fair. Soon will be able to choose friends to sit with for the year.
  + Zero Covid cases so far. When this happens, there are two letters that go out. One to the entire school letting them know of the case, and one to those people who have been in direct contact. Kids have been great with masks. If someone needs to quarantine, they can attend the regular class virtually, their schedule stays the same. They can see a video link with the same content. Could be a different teacher, but same things covered. Can be synchronous/asynchronous, whatever works for them.
  + If people change their mind on in-person/virtual, this is tough with scheduling, so needs to be a very good legitimate excuse.
  + Election coming – plan to talk with students about differences of opinions, respectful behavior, how to discuss issues and treat others even if they disagree.
  + The masks PTO ordered have not arrived yet. Going to try to get them at cost for the delay.
  + Feedback on Virtual has been positive. There are some teachers with 43 virtual students in one class, some cohorts. They chose the “easier” allied arts courses for the first semester, hoping to be in person second semester.
  + How can PTO help staff? Tony will send some suggestions from teachers. The staff have had some organization challenges, so maybe shelving, etc.
* PTO President’s Report
  + Upcoming events & Tentative Calendar
    - Red Ribbon Week – the week of 10/26. No assembly, daily theme, maybe a daily way to give back to the community? PTO hands out things for participation, possibly goodie bags at end of week for Halloween
    - PD Day – 10/9 – Kelly will order a meal, PTO will reimburse.
    - P/T Conferences – will be tough, maybe do virtually, Possible online Book Fair at the same time. Nicole Ward has taken over for Bunny Baurnfiend for this.
    - 7th grade MSOE event has been canceled. Can we think of something to take its place? Karen will talk to the CHS Fine Arts Booster Club, maybe the Band can play for them.
* Membership and Committee Chairs update – 216 Families so far. Tony will send a membership registration link again. 7 parents have offered to chair events. 2 for 8th Grade Farewell, 1 for Turkey Trot, 4 Miscellaneous (Karen will reach out to these 4 to ask if they want to help with Red Ribbon Week).
* New PTO website update – Now online!
* Sunshine Committee – new employees will receive a gift, Tony will send Melanie a list.
* Treasurer’s Report – 2020-2021 Budget update – no fundraising this year. Need to find ways to spend money. The only spend so far have been masks, and the teacher lunch the week before school started.
* New Business (Open)
  + Eagle Scout Project – picnic tables are being built. This will be a part of the Pavilion project. A grant? Tony will circle back with the Scout on the timeline. A lot needs to be done beforehand.
  + We should announce to new PTO members that we are looking for new Board members for next school year - to shadow, substitute, put feelers out now. People that want to be creative, bring ideas, and new challenges.
* Meeting adjourned: 8:34pm. 1st motion: Sarah Enwald, 2nd motion: Cori Kaminsky
* Next meeting – Tuesday, October 20th, 7pm, probably Zoom