

## Minutes HFE PTO Board Meeting February 10, 2021

Google Meet link:

- Check-in
- In attendance: Ryan Osweiler, Diana Nickell, Rebecca Strimer, Trinette Beck, Libba Quinn, Carrie Buchanan, Lindsay Pharr, Samantha Erway, Karen Ezzi, Erin Connors
  
- New principal announcement - welcome officially to Ms. Buchanan
  - Parent survey [results](#)
  - Reiterating that relationships are important and she looks forward to continuing to foster those
  
- Returning to school plans - building community with staff for a successful return
  - ACS information to come from central office on Friday, 2/12
    - Logistics are needed
  - Teacher input: teachers have a variety of thoughts and feelings about coming back, what we don't want is parents on one side and teachers on the other
  - How can we make this experience a win for everyone?
  - How can we support morale?
  - Bus drivers- nervous and scared about precautions on buses
  - Mental and behavioral health support for staff, parents, students- from student support services
  - Understanding that there are different comfort levels and respecting those differences
  - Creating a welcome to the first day for kids at front door and bus ramps, teachers, coffee, messaging about parents staying outside, \*\*will need to be done for both return to school weeks\*\*
  - Create a request form for supplies/projects
    - With a personal note of appreciation
    - Google form
  - Classroom tours the last week of virtual learning
  - Safety protocols named in recent Duke University study of NC school districts will be best strategies for keeping kids and staff safe; will there be any way for volunteers to be in the building to support the implementation of safety protocols?
  
- STEAM lab plans - Mr. O
  - Invention Convention
    - Create a STEAM hub
    - Renovation of the current lab
  - Thermo fisher grant
    - Robotics kits for 4th and 5th graders
    - Every kid will have 6- 8 weeks robotics module for k-5
  - ACS Foundation \$11,500
    - furniture
  - TD bank grant
    - For additional funding to the lab, Erin and Rebecca are assisting with this grant
  - ACS funded improvements to space- district will paint (light blue and white), carpet , rearrange the displays
    - Build resources for K-2
  - Other ideas for support?

- Looking at adding the Montessori Program to be included in the STEAM
    - Would be adding 100 students
- Teacher/Staff Meal 2/22
  - Signage for welcome back staff
  - Admin will be supplying some treats
  - PTO could provide a meal- boxed meal/pizza; board will research options and pricing
  - 73 staff or more- including food prep staff
- Parent survey - planning and recruitment tool (e.g. what supports would you like to have in place to step up as an officer next year? A. share the role with an existing office, clear description of the duties, etc.)
  - Wait until students are back in the building
- Rector funding request - math organizers
  - \$75 to purchase organizer for all of the new manipulatives
  - PASSED with all in favor
- Snacks for Stephens Lee PODS program- Ms Rowe is requesting morning snacks
  - Either one day or one week, whatever we can do.
  - Put out ask to parents to help pay via paypal
  - 37 kids from k- 8th
- [Solicitation license](#) exemption - legal filing that we need to be able to seek reimbursement for sales tax
  - We are a 501c3- we have never applied for an exemption for sales tax but Rebecca will be working towards this.
- Treasurer Report
  - Erin had left the meeting, but reported via email in advance that the only transaction since our last meeting was our payment to Mr. O for robotics team t shirts.
- Other officer reports
  - none