**October 2020 PTO Meeting Minutes - 10/13/20**

**Attendance**

Wendy Muchi, Erin Perreault, Gretchen Marino, Melissa David, Christina LaFortune, Kathy Pelley, Elizabeth Lamparth, Michelle Phillips, Jen Ohanesian, Sandra Peck, Christine Nesleusan, Laura Tartaglia, Jacki Chechile, Jill Veglia, Sharon Mrotek, Jenn Reed

**Welcome & Introductions**

**May 2020 Minutes**

🍂Approved

**Principals Update**

🍂Enrollment is down by almost 100 students. Last year's 6th grade was the largest and this year's preschool had to be tightened up so it has 60 less students.There has been an increase in homeschooling and some Kindergartners opted out as it's not mandatory in MA.

🍂270 kids in COhort A; 160 kids in COhort B; 160-170 kids in Cohort D and18 in Cohort E

🍂Hope to have flexibility with Chapter 70 funding

🍂Teachers are working very hard. Not all parents are happy - some want more synchronous learning; some want less

🍂Some teachers are on leave due to Covid

🍂Lots of flexibility with teachers who are teaching various different things.

🍂Need to survey Cohort D about the possibility of incorporating people back into school if they want to.

🍂If we have a positive case, everyone will be notified like the HS.

🍂School improvement meeting next Monday.

🍂Every child will/can get a free lunch and breakfast.

🍂Filled all paraprofessional positions - 7 were open

🍂PE is still an unfilled position. Mr. Emrich is filling in for the interim. Sarah Swift (Librarian) position is still not filled.

🍂Remedial department depleted

🍂If you are not feeling well enough to go to school, you have the option of hybrid that day. Just need to contact your teacher.

🍂IF someone tests positive, the whole class is home for 14 days

🍂THe school is cleaned very well every day and night.

🍂Mask wearing is going well

🍂MCAS are still on the agenda per the state in the spring.

🍂Parents are getting hard copy packets going home in case power is lost.

🍂Advocating for all students to develop independence at home.

🍂Parent teacher conferences are going to be pushed out a week. Originally the week of Veterans Day.

🍂Snow days - The commissioner will be putting out a statement then its up to the school committee to decide what each district will do

🍂School pictures possibly in the spring.

**Treasurer Report**

🍂Nothing has changed

🍂We have enough money to cover teacher reimbursements in case we don’t do any fundraising.

🍂More info next meeting

**Fundraisers**

🍂Burgess Wear all year long - we will have incentives for people to buy merchandise

🍂Socks/lanyards/cups/magnets all available now

🍂Square 1 Art in the spring - Cohort D will be able to submit directly to the company

🍂Baba Sushi - December 5, 2020

🍂Dismissal Pads - $1

🍂Mabels Labels

🍂Stop and Shop Rewards - $575.36 (Aug/Sept total)

🍂Jog a thon we are going to play by ear come springtime

🍂Scholastic Book Fair - No fall book fair; spring playing it by ear

🍂Box tops - Need to download the app

**6th Grade Committee**

🍂Meeting Wednesday am with Mrs. Pelley

🍂We will have a yearbook this year

🍂Sturbridge Orthodontics will pay for it again

🍂Holiday Shoppe - Trying to figure out how we can do it. More info to come.

**Virtual Burgess Bear 5K**

🍂Current timing company can run a virtual race for us.

🍂5K your way - Run, Walk, Ski

🍂Looking at January 2021

**Possible Change to The Connection**

🍂Quark is the format used currently which is hard to use. Looking at an online format

🍂Current format is static where a web based would be more fluid

🍂Christine will reach out to Kathy Pelley for new ways to do the connection

**Open Discussion**

🍂Butter Braid/Pies - Company is doing an online platform but not butter braids

🍂Previously it was a 5th grade fundraiser. Will talk to Kathy about 5th grade doing it.

🍂Scholastic - we have $2200 scholastic dollars and none are expiring.

**Next Meeting November 10, 2020**