

ROCKY MOUNTAIN ACADEMY OF EVERGREEN PTO

May 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes

6 pm

Attendees: Erin Parret (PTO Co-President), Valerie Hartford (PTO Vice President), Kate Blaney (PTO Secretary), Lisa Warren (PTO Treasurer), Jill Jachimek (PTO Director of Communications), Cody Knopf (PTO Director of RMAE Fundraising), Kjersten Ostrom-Condojani (RMAE Board Liaison to PTO), Tiffany, Fontaine, Jessica Curtis, Tom Barbour, Mike Bell

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting began at 6:08 pm via Zoom.
- 2. Minutes:** April 2021 PTO meeting minutes were approved (Kate/Lisa motioned to approve) and will be sent to Tiffany Fontaine for posting to the RMAE website.
- 3. Principal's Update:** Dr. Hudson provided several updates on school happenings: school bathrooms will be gutted this summer and re-done, Ms. Pimphrey designed core virtue flags that will be hung on the walkway between buildings as well as at the new building, and the Board of Directors adopted a new science curriculum that aligns with core curriculum for the middle school next year. She also noted that the school is close to having a final rendering of the new playground and was pleased that it will check all the non-negotiable items mentioned by the students in a previous survey (except a zip line). It will be built using natural colors like greens, beiges, and reds. Dr. Hudson shared that the new building development continues to move along, however, with the cost of building materials rising, the school very much needs to get through the permitting process as quickly as possible. Lastly, the school is meeting tomorrow to discuss permitting for the new road to ensure that it can be finished before the new school year begins.
- 4. Treasurer's Summary:** Lisa shared that the PTO currently has \$71K in operating funds plus an additional ~\$20K that belongs to the middle school for fundraising. She wrote a check to the school last month for \$4K for Annual Giving funds received. Tiffany shared that the bingo license renewal is still in limbo given The Wild Game is currently closed for renovations and it is unclear at this time whether it will continue to be a state-sanctioned bingo hall after it reopens. Once that is determined, we can purchase the license.

RMAE PTO Treasurer Report - May 2021	
Account Description	Balance

PTO Operating Account	\$ 91,722.01
Total PTO Operating Funds (see excluded funds breakout below)	\$ 71,001.49
Bingo Bank Account (separate from PTO Operating Account at ENB)	\$ 630.02
Total PTO Funds (operating + bingo)	\$ 71,631.51

Funds Excluded from PTO Total Operating Funds	
Account Description	Balance
MS - 19/20 (7th Grade) pizza income	\$ 1,453.02
MS Trips-8th (20/21 graduates)	\$ 17,790.93
Annual Giving (due to RMAE)	\$ 1,476.57

5. Events and Activities:

Current/Old

- **Teacher Appreciation:** Kate shared that Teacher Appreciation Week was very successful and thanked Marni Reinstein for all the time and effort she put into making it a special week for teachers and staff.
- **Campus Clean-ups:** Kate shared that she worked with Todd Wellman to develop a schedule and sign-up for a Spring campus clean-up this year, in addition to the one that will be help in early August. The clean-up days are scheduled for 5/20-5/21 in the afternoon and various tasks were included to cut down on tasks that will need to be completed during the summer.

6. Fundraising Updates: Cody shared updates about the food fundraisers. Specifically, she has reached out to Dominos and Hearthfire for the pizza and froyo fundraisers and is looking to partner with Jimmy Johns to add a third food fundraiser for the 8th graders. She has also been in touch with the parent volunteers for coordinating and managing these fundraisers. For froyo, this year kids will get to select one of three flavors ahead of time. And for Jimmy Johns, she is looking to keep the price point under \$5 in order to make a profit so it is likely that 6 inch subs will be the option available to students.

7. Ongoing Business and Other Topics

- **New Family Mentor Program:** Jill shared that she and Stephanie have items in stock for the swag bags so will begin stuffing in June. They are still in need of mentor families, as only 13 have signed up, but it is likely up[to 40 will be needed. She noted that if necessary, two new families can be assigned to a single mentor family to help. She also noted that new families have the option of joining the program, as it is not mandatory.

- **Safety Program for Next School Year:** Kate and Ann discussed and agreed that next year, the PAWSS program will remain as is and there is no need to transition to the WatchDOGS program. Dr. Hudson noted if necessary, we can tailor the program to involve more aspects of volunteerism, but there is no need to re-brand it at this time.
- **Communication Survey Results:** Jill shared results of her communication survey that was open to parents from 4/22 through 5/15. Results can be viewed here: [results](#). Seventy three responses (28% of households) were collected. Main themes of the open-ended feedback were as follows: classroom news was one area in particular many respondents felt they were missing (this primarily includes the need for more/better information from teachers but also includes some comments regarding classroom coordinator emails), there is a need for more advanced notice and clearer communication on school policies and testing, as well as feelings of redundancy among communications. Fifteen respondents did not feel they were missing anything.

8. Election for 2021-2022 PTO Board Officers: Tiffany facilitated the election portion of the meeting. Nominations were received ahead of time and there was only one real-time nomination received during the meeting. All nominees were unanimously voted in as officers for next school year. One position remains vacant. Officers for the 2021-2022 PTO Board are as follows:

- President/Co-President - Valerie Hartford & Kate Blaney
- Vice President - Erin Parrett
- Secretary - Erin Myers
- Treasurer - Tom Barbour
- Director of RMAE Communications - Jill Jachimek
- Director of RMAE Fundraising - Cody Knopf
- Director of RMAE Community Events - Vacant

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Minutes compiled by Kate Blaney, PTO Secretary