

## Little Cedars PTA General Meeting

Oct. 1, 2020

### Board Members

<i>President (Interim)</i>	Emily Walker	<i>VP Communications</i>	Emily Walker
<i>Treasurer</i>	Andrea Vandehey	<i>VP Events</i>	Jennifer Shepherd
<i>Secretary</i>	Stephanie Ridley	<i>VP Watchdogs</i>	Pete Keating
<i>Co VP Academics</i>	Emily Ulmer	<i>Membership Chair</i>	Lindsey Bihary
<i>Co VP Academics</i>	Jennifer Gatherers	<i>Advocacy Chair</i>	Vacant
<i>VP Fundraising</i>	Heather Mauermann		

Minutes prepared by: Stephanie Ridley

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM

16 people present on Zoom meeting. Emily Walker, Lew Dickert, Ryan Painter, Kim Bielski, Saara Graves, Andrea Vandehey, Jennifer Shepherd, Stephanie Ridley, Heather Maurmann, Monika Lemoine, Amanda Whitaker, Jennifer Gatherers, Lindsey Bihary, Daniel Walsh, Shelley Dearmon

There was a motion to elect Jennifer Gatherers as co-chair of Programs. Jennifer Shepherd motioned, second by Andrea Vandehey. Motion passed.

Emily mentioned that she is the interim president and asked that if anyone is thinking of nominating someone to let the board know and we can vote at the next general election.

Emily also asked that we keep the meeting family friendly.

Secretary: Motion to approve May meetings by Stephanie R, second by Heather Mauermann, motion approved. Motion passed.

Treasurer (Andrea Vandehey): Last year's beginning balance was \$110,000. We ended last year with \$77,000. Got a reimbursement check of \$14K for unused classroom allocations as well as field trips, which is not included in the \$77,000 total in the bank account.

Grant requests: Approved a couple of grants last year that we didn't end up paying for that will rollover to this year. Kindergarten teachers and music have grants.

Financial Review: Gina Detlor, Angie Loth, and Andrea Vendehey did the financial review. Reviewed financial review and where to find the link to go more in depth.

Budget: Reviewed proposed budget for this school year including changes made due to COVID. Motion to approve budget by Jennifer G, second by Heather M. Motion passes.

President (Interim) (Emily Walker):

Standing Rules: The option to vote via Zoom was added to the standing rules, we reviewed all the changes made. Heather M motioned to approve changes to standing rules, Lindsey second, motion passes.

Programs (Jennifer G): PTA Zoom account will be used for clubs from 3:30-4:30 and will typically be every other week.

Lego club: will start Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, \$25 fee. Fee covers Lego kit and marble and string. Amanda Whitaker is running Lego club on Wednesdays and Shane will do Mondays if it fills up quickly and it is determined we need to add a second day.

Drama club: Registration will start October 12<sup>th</sup>. Philosophy of the person running the club is that she won't turn anyone away. The club will be doing Music Man this year, and everything will be via Zoom. They hope to have a performance in the spring. Open to other schools in the district.

Third Grade Book Club: There's an option to sign up now. Partnership with Sno-Isle libraries. They have picked 4 books for it. They'll have Trivia nights. 4-6<sup>th</sup> grade book club is already happening, but it is already full.

Writing Club: Two different clubs will meet on alternating Fridays. One is a comic writing (2-6<sup>th</sup> graders). 4-6<sup>th</sup> graders will have the option for script writing.

Spanish Club: Thursdays. Basic Spanish, numbers, colors, locations, etc. 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders. Registration will open in November. Monika Lemoine will be running the Spanish club.

Art Club and Gardening Club will hopefully start in January. BJ Taylor is doing art club. Ms. Moshier and Ms. McMaster will be running gardening club.

The clubs are looking for more volunteers!

Fundraising (Heather):

Spirit wear, the last day to order is Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Renew your membership by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Sign up for the Wolverine Weekly if you haven't already.

Mr D: Mr. D wants to introduce Mr. Ryan Painter, we also have Mrs. Bielski, Mrs. Graves, and Mrs. Dearmon in attendance.

Mr. D is proud of the work the team has done so far in the school year. He Wants to offer personal support and he sees the PTA as the conduits to the community. He knows there will be a lot of questions regarding the plan to bring students back into the building. He said that he can give us the most candid answers that we can get out there right now and he wants us to share the updates with the community.

We had a great talk with Mr. D, Mr. Painter, and a few of our teachers at last night's PTA meeting and wanted to share some of our discussion with those who missed it.

(Our PTA meetings always have school updates from Mr D, and an open forum to ask questions - they are a truly helpful way to stay connected and learn about the school, especially now!)

#### THE CLASSROOM

K-2, we are looking at a return to the BUILDING at the end of this month - but not a return to NORMAL. New guidance keeps coming out, so details and rules will change, especially in the next few weeks of planning.

Classrooms are all set up with individual desks facing forward, spaced 6 feet apart. No rug to sit on, no shared play centers, games or materials. But our beloved teachers will still be at the front of the class to guide them through these strange days.

There may not be specialist classes, or if there are, there won't be balls or equipment in PE, there won't be singing or instruments in Music, and browsing books in the library is still uncertain.

#### LUNCH & RECESS

Lunch tables have been spread out into the gym as well. There will be 3 kids spread far apart at each of those long tables so they can take their masks off and eat lunch.

At recess, the kids will need to keep their 6-foot distance, and the play structure will be off-limits. No balls, jump ropes, etc. Kids may need to keep their masks on. The staff has some creative ideas though, like playing music and leading Zumba or types of creative dance. Running Club will be great!

Kids will be kept in grade-level "cohorts" for lunch and recess and will have dedicated doors in and out of the building. This year we have smaller class sizes - 60 total kindergarteners, 72 1st graders, and 80 2nd graders.

\*\* 3rd through 6th grade families, we will get more details on how hybrid classes will work later this month. These classes are larger — 32 kids in each 6th grade class — but since only half will be in the building each day, their overall cohort sizes will be similar to the younger grades. \*\*

#### HEALTH & SAFETY

There is a great safety manual on the District's re-opening page that talks about disinfecting plans, classroom ventilation, when kids need to stay home due to illness, and what happens if a classmate contracts COVID-19. Masks need to be worn all day, but teachers and staff are brainstorming how to incorporate some safe "mask breaks" for kids who need them.

Parents will need to "attest" that their child is healthy and has no COVID symptoms each morning. If you forget, staff will take your child's temperature with a forehead thermometer and ask them questions about how they're feeling. Kids and staff members who have symptoms or come in close contact with someone who tests positive will need to stay home and quarantine for 14 days (less if they get tested and the result is negative). But kids in a class won't necessarily be considered in "close contact" with each other - the health department/CDC rules on this aren't as strict as we might be thinking.

Our nurse, Rose Flaherty, will be at Little Cedars full-time to help with all of this.

There are no great answers yet on how kids home for an extended quarantine will get assignments and continue learning, but teachers know they will find a way to make it happen.

#### SCHEDULE

First day back will be Oct. 26th for 2nd grade, Oct. 29th for 1st grade, and Nov. 3rd for kindergarten. The daily start and end times are still being adjusted by the district, but the school day should be close to its usual number of hours.

#### CHOOSING REMOTE VS IN-PERSON

Our kids may have to switch teachers. Our teachers don't want to see this happen either, but said our kids would be in such good hands with any of their fellow teachers. The final decisions will depend on the numbers of students enrolled for each option. We may end up with 3 in-person classes and one online class, for example. Teachers may end up remaining online due to health risks or personal preference, or may be assigned.

The District is also planning to balance remote enrollment across the schools as needed, so some remote learners may end up in a combined class with Cathcart, Totem Falls, or Seattle Hill students.

(The Little Cedars PTA will still serve all LCE students, online or in-person, regardless of teacher. All of our treats, activities, help purchasing school supplies, PTA membership and more will be here for you! Please sign up for our Wolverine Weekly e-mail to help stay connected: <http://littlecedarspta.org/Page/GetConnected/Connect>

Meeting Adjourned 8:54pm.