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December 2, 2020

Stokes PTA Meeting

Meeting Minutes

On December 2, 2020, the Stoke PTA met via Zoom.

VP Kristine Erickson called the meeting to order at 6:18. 19 people were in attendance.

Officers Present: Talitha Lindo; Erin Argueta, Kristine Erickson, Alexis Tyndle, Wahi Chisolm, Jillian Jarrett, and Laura Alexander

Officer Introductions: The SY20-21 officers introduced themselves.

Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the October PTA meeting were approved (motion: KL; second: TL)

Equity: Stacey Yonkers provided an overview of the Equity Team and their upcoming events.

- The Equity Team is seeking parents to participate for 10-week dialogue groups beginning January 2021, meeting virtually once a week for 90 minutes. Questions to Stacey Yonkers.
- The Equity Team is conducting training sessions on advocacy and social justice, designed to teach parents and children how to advocate for social justice. Questions to Kate Topping.
- The Equity Team is forming a Building Community Committee. The Committee plans to fundraise with the PTA and support school celebrations. Contact: Stacey Yonkers
- The Equity Team's monthly meeting will take place at 6pm on December 14. The topic will be the state of equity at Stokes.

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Pancake Breakfast: Jillian provided an overview of the upcoming pancake breakfast to be hosted by the PTA.

- The breakfast will take place from 9-10am on December 12.
- Deadline to register is 12/8, but all can participate whether registered or not.
- The baskets will be picked up or delivered, depending on turnout.
- The cost for a basket is \$10, which feeds family of 4.
- Volunteers are welcome for packing/delivering baskets.
- Jillian will talk to school about tree for display of ornaments.
- Sra. Donado suggests coordination with Sra. Cortez re distribution from school.

Planning Fundraising Goals: The group discussed the goals that should be the focus on PTA fundraising efforts.

- **5th Grade Trip to Panama & Martinique:** Jacqueline raised the idea of preserving at least some aspects of the 5th grade trip to Panama & Martinique. Sra. Donado noted that nothing has been decided yet about this year's trip, but the school is looking at alternatives. Deposits and reservations are typically due in January and February. The school has always supported some families, and the PTA always has historically supported the trip with money. Jillian mentioned that the 5th grade French families have discussed a potential trip to Quebec. Others suggested reaching out to local restaurants featuring French/Latin American food, the Lycee Francais, and embassies from the various countries about possible collaborations. The group expressed support for next steps:
 1. Investigate what other DCI feeders are doing: Karen and Taylor will contact Mundo Verde and DCB; Erin will contact LAMB; Jillian will contact Yu Ying.
 2. The PTA will send out a survey.
- **Technology:** Historically, the PTA has raised money to help meet technology needs at the school. Catherine suggesting discussing current technology needs with the school administration. Sra. Donado noted that the school is still waiting on computers for some families and that there is

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always a need for hotspots. For more specific information, she suggested contacting Ms. Cortez and Mr. Bobby.

- Catherine suggests conversation with school administration about tech needs and what supporting tech would look like; school has historically fundraised and paid portion of 5th grade trip

Planning Fundraising Ideas: Ideas for raising funds were discussed. Alexis noted that time is short and it would be best to focus on 3-4 ideas. The following ideas were discussed:

- Auction: We could solicit donations of goods from neighborhood businesses and families could donate services, e.g. babysitting, and meals.
- Kid Friendly “Sip” n’ Paint: The event could be held outside and socially distanced. The paints could also be auctioned to raise additional funds. Several of those in attendance expressed interest in this event.
- Saturday Academy: The suggestion was made to host classes via Zoom on Saturdays, along the lines of a Saturday Academy. Classes suggested included cooking and candlemaking. Several of those in attendance expressed interest in this event.
- School Pictures: The idea of finding a way to put together school pictures was raised and discussed.
- Other ideas that were discussed included: mask sales; takeout; product sales; guided tours of the city via open bus; and Double Good Popcorn sales.
- T-shirt sales were also discussed, but it was concluded that this would be redundant of the school t-shirt sales.
- The group expressed support for the next steps:
 1. The PTA will send a survey to solicit broader feedback and focus on fundraising ideas.

New Business

- Sra. Donado noted that the school is still looking for mentors for new families. Those interested should reach out to Sra. Donado
- Sra. Donado notes that Seasons of Light will take place during the last week of school in 2020, Seasons of Light. From December 14-18 lineup will take

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place every day and will highlight different holiday traditions. The school is looking for additional families to share their traditions, in a live or recorded format of 5 minutes maximum.

- Sra. Donado noted the winter concert and end-of-year party will take place via Zoom on 12/18.
- Kristine encouraged parents to coordinate with room parents on holiday gifts for teachers. Sra. Donado clarified that to deliver something to teachers, items can be delivered to the school for teachers to pick up. She also noted that the parents at the East End campus have sent a survey to teachers to see if they would prefer to pick gifts up from the school or have them delivered to their homes and that is also an option for Brookland. She can share the survey.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01pm.