

SJLES PTA MEETING MINUTES

Date & location: Thursday September 10th 6.30pm, SJLES Parking lot

In attendance: (21) Diana Choi, Carolyn Adams, Katia Klein, Daniel Notari, Kristen McGrath, Ward Morrow, Valerie Smothers, Jenna Groman, Linda Ferguson, Jane Fisher, Maria Laskey, Meg Halvorsen, Tiffany Burns, Peggy Wu, Marianne Gotshall, Tara Scully, Tolly Peddicord, Mary Brown, Olabode Soyinka, John Nichols, Meg Ballman.

Next Meeting: TBA

AGENDA:

1. Vote on nominated PTA board members
2. Approve 2020-2021 PTA budget
3. Vacant PTA volunteer positions
4. Any other business

MINUTES:

1. Vote on nominated PTA board members
 - Nominated PTA board members were unanimously approved
2. Approve 2020-2021 PTA budget
 - Proposed PTA budget was unanimously approved
3. Vacant PTA volunteer positions
 - Diana spoke about the work that PTA tries to do to connect our community. It takes a lot of work, but it is especially important this year. We are always trying to figure out ways we can keep out community engaged, and we would welcome any ideas parents might have.
 - Carolyn will re-post vacant positions on website. We are especially looking for help with:
 - i. Ideas & assistance for a virtual Turkey Trott - November
 - ii. People to help facilitate zoom calls for parents hoping to connect with other parents in their grades. PTA has purchased a zoom account and we can have max 100 people at each time. In order to make this idea work, we would need several facilitators (perhaps one per grade?)

Current coordinators are Rachel Ruo, Vanessa Zawondy & Bettina Wachter but we could really use any other help!

- iii. Assistance and ideas for Teacher appreciation (e.g. catering for teachers)

4. Any other business

- Diana confirmed that we have a coordinator for Book Fair but we could definitely use a second chair on this event. The plan is to hold the book fair virtually in October (so that items can be purchased before the holidays).
- The plan at this stage is for Original Works to take place but probably not until in the new year.
- Restaurant nights have been extremely successful in previous years. This year, the PTA would like to try reverse the idea and actually 'give back' to the community by encouraging SJLES families to visit small local businesses & restaurants and support them as much as we can during the pandemic. More details to follow.
- The group agreed that keeping up with familiar events like restaurant nights and original works would be good for the kids
- Mr Notari spoke to the group about how things are going. Mr Notari is focused on maintaining strong communication with families and encouraged everyone to be patient and show grace during this new challenge we all face. Virtual Coffee & Conversations evening will be coming up on 9/30 - this is where parents can ask the school admin any questions they have.
- Anyone interested in volunteering or just finding out more about volunteering should email Carolyn Adams (Volunteer Coordinator) sjlesptavolunteer@gmail.com
- Link to PTA website: <https://sjlespta.org>
- Follow PTA on Facebook (official notices & events): <https://www.facebook.com/SJLESPTA>
- Join PTA families group (discussions/sharing/connect with community): *St John's Lane PTA Families*