

PTO Community Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2020, 6pm via Zoom

Board Members Present:

Ross Ingram
Natalia Duarte
Mitch Franzos
Lisa Guizzetti Zur
Karey Kluesner
Stephanie Livshin
Dr. Sanders Woods
Tiffany Stuckey

Plus 23 general member participants.

PTO Overview and Introduction:

A brief overview of the PTO and its goal for this year was provided. PTO officers introduced themselves.

Completed and Upcoming Activities:

The Homeroom Representative position was discussed. FAQs and specific direction will be provided to all homeroom representatives.

It was discussed that PTO funds were applied to fund some additional e-learning training requested by the Colfax staff.

Also, Classroom Supply Grant applications were distributed to classroom teachers and the PTO is now in the process of getting these fulfilled.

PTO events held to date and those upcoming were reviewed. Spiritwear options are being finalized and all items will include our new logo for the year "Online Together"

It was shared that the PTO is always looking for volunteers and members, and that anyone is free to submit topics for future PTO meetings to questions@colfaxpto.org.

New Business:

A replacement idea for the Fiesta night was proposed: a cookbook of recipes submitted by families as either a general event or a fundraiser, with the purpose to show off the diversity of the school and give some of the community feeling that Fiesta has provided each year. Other ideas from participants included adding recipes from teachers, from the Grow Pittsburgh classroom activities, and from kids. There was general member agreement that the Colfax cookbook concept should be

pursued. Becca Peluso agreed to serve as co-chair along with Stephanie Livshin (Special Events) to work on a plan forward.

An initiative to expand Colfax's outdoor learning environment was discussed. The importance of establishing viability and obtaining necessary District and School Board approvals for a project in which school grounds are modified was discussed. A community member identified that they independently started looking into this possibility this past summer. There was general member agreement that the appropriate next step is for Natalia Duarte (Assistant Treasurer) to learn what has been pursued to date and for the PTO Board to follow up with the District and School Board on the approval process for grounds modification and use of PTO funds in general.

One participant asked if there is an accessibility-focused PTO position. There is not, but it was identified that anyone is welcome to bring their ideas and volunteer their effort for additional PTO committees.

Previous community meeting action items to carry forward:

None

The meeting was adjourned approximately 7:30 pm.

Next Meeting:

October 14, 2020, 6pm via Zoom