

Carmel Middle School
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2021

Attendance: Deanna Pitman, Jason Rose, Claude Warren, Ann Bernard, Sarah Galante, Jessica Barrett, Laura Roth

Principal's Report

- Redistricting update - There are 50 current 6th graders and 60 current 7th graders who need transportation to attend Carmel Middle School next year. If transportation can be provided, school numbers would be about 1225 which is 125 less than this year. Deanna estimates rough total will be somewhere around 1100-1200 students for next year.
- Staffing will be done in March
- Incoming 5th grader families have received a parent video and performing arts video. Deanna is visiting the 6 feeder schools. Still working on an open house for late April/early May when students will receive t-shirts and participate in various activities. The PTO will be involved in the open house.
- All 3 middle schools are offering the same transition opportunities.
- Superintendent is pushing against doing iLearn testing.
- Some new COVID guidelines were released that move distancing from 6ft to 3ft in classrooms only.
- Deanna will send an email on Monday regarding PTO community meeting scheduled for March 9th. Parents must complete the form to receive the Zoom meeting link. Student Services will do a presentation on mental health. Jessica will post reminders on social media, but parents must go to the email for the Zoom link for security.
- 8th grade trip to DC was rescheduled for Memorial Day weekend. The school is providing parents with information for them to make a decision on whether their student will go on the trip.
- Picture check is expected to arrive this month but amount is lower than has been in the past. Carmel Middle as well as many other schools in the district will be looking for another picture company for next year.
- Three grants were received:
 - Cindy Senseman requested \$264 for classroom books, including graphic novels to use for special ed, book club books and social issue books for her classroom library. Jason moved to approve this request, and Jessica seconded the motion. ***Motion for classroom notebooks was approved.***
 - Hilary Machamer requested \$35 for a subscription to the website "thinglink". It provides videos and images for more engaging presentations to be used in health classes. Jason moved to approve this request, and Jessica seconded the motion. ***Motion for webssubscription was approved.***
 - The Art Dept requested \$39 to purchase a box of heart masks. They related to the Culture of Care month and a project that will be done in all Core+ classes for students to design a heart. All designs will be assembled together in a collage that will be displayed in the school. The masks have the same type of artwork on them and will be raffle prizes for students at the end of this project. Jason moved to approve this motion, and Jessica seconded the motion. ***Motion for box of heart masks was approved.***

President's Report

- Jason plans to talk with Deanna about structure of the PTO for next year and what chairs and volunteers will be needed
- He called Tri Kappa to thank them for their \$500 donation to Pantry Packs. They were very happy for the call and it was a pleasant conversation.
- Plans to come up with a fun dine out night for March
- Asked if there was anything else the PTO can be doing to help? Deanna said there may be upcoming events, but they will depend on covid restrictions.

Vice President's Report

- Thankful Thursday for January was sparkling water and trail mix with the message "Have a mix of sparkle for the new year"
- Counseling Week - 7 staff members were given \$10 Starbucks gift cards
- February events - Thankful Thursday will be last Thursday of the month and it is also Food Services Staff Appreciation month
- Laura is keeping notes on the cost for each month's events
- Plan to reach out to feeder schools with volunteer needs and think about other chairs we might need for next year

Treasurer's Report

- We are doing ok. We have money in our account and the bills are paid.
- Fundraising - our goal was \$30,000 and we raised \$15,700. Although this was just over half of our goal, we are spending less money this year. Ann said this group is frugal and doesn't spend money needlessly.
- There will be more spending at the end of the year. This is typically when teachers spend their budgets.
- The budget for next year will be presented at the PTO community meeting on March 9th. It will be voted on in April.

Communications Report

- We continue to get likes and new followers
- Plan to post for Valentines Day and Presidents Day
- Reposts information from CCS and CaMS websites
- Will share recognition of food services staff and requested a photo of this group
- Will send reminders for PTO community meeting on March 9th

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Sarah Galante