

**OCE PTA Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2021
OCE Media Center and Virtual**

Attendance: Carolyn Bentley, Julie Chase, Mandy MacNaughton, Erin May, Laurie Jendrasiak, Jen Curtis-Maury, Robyn Salzman, Beverly Smith, Bethany Iannone, Jeannie Noon, Alison Alcaine, Amy Skorich, Angie Kirkland, Shannon May, Kim Oley, Mandy Wagstaff, Kathryn Broaddus

Welcome/Introduction - Mandy MacNaughton

- \$4000 was received in direct checks from parents for purchasing outdoor tables
- How to send a check to the PTA as a direct donation? You can send a check made out to OCE PTA in a child's school folder or mail it to the school; write in the memo line if have specific wish
- Can add a Cheddar Up link for no-fuss donations after the Fun Run is over

Principal Report – Ms. May

- Bridget Robertson attended the Board Advisory meeting with Ms May. Lindsay Mahaffey talked about school overcrowding. With Apex Friendship Elementary opening for 2022-2023, OCE will lose approx 500 students but has 500 students on wait list. Draft 1 of school districting will be presented at the end of the month, and draft 3 will finalize at the end of December. Anything is on the table according to Lindsday (including year-round designations). Board approves the drafts but does not designate the boundary lines. Ms May can get contact info for us to ask questions.
- New Assistant Principal, Beverly Smith.
- Allie Sandoval started as an in-house substitute. Lots of vacancies remain (some full time, many subs still needed). OCE is in a good place regarding spirit, teacher/staff burnout (not pulling teachers for lunch, e.g.)
- Outdoor lunch was a success. Volunteers helped move picnic tables last week. 8 big metal tables (these are the ones we ordered more of) and 21 wood tables currently. Can seat 85 kids with social distancing right now (115-140 total students per lunch period). Will need volunteers to help assemble tables when they arrive. Will do all outdoor as long as weather cooperates. Re: covid exposure - will likely have to quarantine students at lunch table outside, but will hopefully have a lower chance of getting infected.
 - Ms May: The goal is to put the wooden tables back as they are not great for outdoor lunches (smaller and harder to disinfect). Would like to use metal tables for lunch and wooden tables for staff lunch, recess, etc. Need \$17,500 to purchase 20 more tables (getting 2 tables from the district), Cathy Moore says the district should be supplying these things, not the PTA. Maybe pause and wait before purchasing more tables to see what the district will supply.
- Volunteers can start next week helping with lunch. IAs will help make a training video.

- First Fun Run was awesome!
- No DC trip for 5th graders this year (no overnight trips, nothing farther than 125 miles) (Board/County rules). Trying to plan alternatives. Field trip proposals are coming in now, no field trips until 2022.
- Cancelled the order for 85 chromebooks, the remaining 50 will arrive today as extras for classrooms. New smartboards (Promethean), 2 per grade level and 1 for STEM, these are interactive white boards funded with last years' technology money
- Landlubbers (3-5), gardening (k-5), robotics, kids corp (4, 5) are all back.
- Air purifiers: as of Sept 9, OCE got first guidance about air purifiers after consultation with ABC collaborative and Nathan Slavik (Senior Director of Maintenance Operations)
 - Air purifiers are being purchased for Special ed classrooms because of children that cannot wear masks properly.
 - Approx \$700 for an air purifier that meets WCPSS standards ([link](#))
 - For PTA, it would cost \$35,700 plus \$5-10K for replacement to outfit all OCE classrooms with air purifiers
 - Other schools (Turner Creek, Laurel Park): letter was sent to parents stating that parents can pool resources to buy an air purifier for a classroom
 - Ms May does not recommend a whole school purchase based on the recent memo.
 - Jen C-M: Could we purchase air purifiers for specials rooms (3) since so many more kids use these rooms?
 - How much work would the purifiers be for the specials teachers?
 - Mandy will do an email or Google survey for thoughts
 - WCPSS-approved one is available on amazon currently
 - If parents purchase an air purifier for a classroom, it is then the property of OCE, but could move classrooms with the teacher. Donated things usually stay with the grade level.

Treasurer Report – Julie Chase

- Budget is in good shape, lots of money coming in.
- Trying to move as much on-line as possible; the box for PTA check requests has QR code to electronically request money or you can email Julie with requests

Committee Reports

Go Play Save Fundraiser: Recap– Bethany Iannone/Mandy

- Raised ~\$9200

Cultural Arts – Bethany Iannone

- Not going to host performances or indoor assemblies this year, and OCE cannot accommodate performers outside

- Bethany will chat with Ms May and Ms Smith about other ways to use funds - maybe improve drama, art and music classrooms (microphones, sound system, costumes, theatre performance, other drama supplies)
- Confirmed that funding allocated for cultural arts can fund things other than performances (as long as PTA approves)
- Ms May will reach out to drama, music and art teachers to get wish lists and goals to see where we could spend these funds this year. We also have some funds for arts, so Ms May will try to put together a budget. Goal is to use funds in a way that reached all the students
- \$6000 currently allocated

Apex Leadership Fun Run – Whitney Brown/Mandy

- Currently at 61% split with total collected of \$60,744, profit as of this morning is \$42,356
- Track 2 and 3 start this week, the second fun run is next Thursday
- Parents loved being able to attend the Fun Run
- From Whitney: I'd love it if people would like, comment and sometimes share the PTA fun run posts I'm doing daily. It really helps the algorithm to have more people see it and remember to log in and donate!

Spirit Wear – Alison Alcaine

- Track 1 has received their orders
- Profit of about \$1200; approx 35 extra shirts, people can pay on Cheddar Up
- Discussing another order to include zip-up hoodies, water bottles with the OCE logo and space for name
 - Does PTA want to donate water bottles to the front office for kids who forget theirs?

Walk to School Wednesday – Alison Alcaine

- **Oct 6** is the first one
- Need a few volunteers to help at the front of the school

Family Marathon – Amy Skorich

- Registration now closed. 167 students registered for revenue of \$835, which will more than cover the cost of the medals (which are in already).
- Will give each teacher a list of students who registered. Reflection sheets and logs are due October 20 (tracks 1, 2, and 3) or 27 (track 4). Will finish the marathon in PE class with Coach Roberts.

Family Movie Night – Rachael Nichols

- Oct 22, already purchased a one year license (365 days from first use) for showing thousands of movies
- Movie with concessions and potentially other fundraising ideas

- Reached out to Bowman Theatres re: screens, etc.

Spirit Night - Angie Kirkland

- \$45 from Brusters
- Next one is Culvers on Oct 11

Book Fair - Angie Kirkland

- Can we combine Book fair and movie night?
- Scheduled to start Nov 5 and runs for 10 days if traditional indoor event
- Can we hold this in person? One option is to do a pop-up event outside
 - We can have adults inside but there is a limit that we would have to adhere to. Outdoor does not have the same limits
 - Would not need to rearrange library if we did a pop-up outdoor book fair
- Consensus is it's a great idea to do the outdoor pop-up book fair (just one night).
- Could then do the 2-week event in the spring
- Grandparents breakfast cannot happen in the fall, hope is to do this breakfast with the book fair in the spring
- Will tie movie night to pop-up book fair maybe with food trucks
- Angie will reach out to Scholastic to confirm options

Staff Appreciation – Laurie Jendrasiak

- Sign up for the teacher's lounge snacks is full for this calendar year
- Bus driver goodie bags: delivered in the morning last week, going to deliver again next week in the afternoon
- New staff gifts
- Bags for substitutes (treat bag) dropped off today
- Lunch for staff on Oct 1
- Donuts on Sept 30 from Mathnasium

Yubbler – Mandy Wagstaff

- School supply orders: we get a check each year and a credit that OCE can spend on school supplies at Yubbler.

Additional Discussion

- Landscaper interest: One person has expressed interest, Bethany would like to attend the meeting with Mandy and the landscaper.
- Jen C-M asked if parents can paint the inside walls of the cottages. Ms May is ok with this, would have to be on weekends, work days, holiday breaks. A few teachers are interested in this. Ms May is fine with inside painting as long as it works with the teachers and is easy for them. There are 14 cottages, might be easiest to paint them all the same color.