



# Pleasant View Elementary

## Pleasant View PTA Meeting Minutes

**Date:** August 16, 2021

**Time:** 6:30 – 7:30 pm

**Place:** Virtual meeting

**Present:** Amy Featherstone, Mindy Gassman, Karyn Green, Valerie Campbell, Megan Barone, Susan Smith, Theresa Needham, Erin Onions, Shannon Prantner, Steven Cotton, Betsy Recker, Jennifer Kremer

<b>Board Members:</b>	President	–	Amy Featherstone
	Co-Vice-Presidents	–	Karyn Green, Megan Barone, & Susan Smith
	Secretary	–	Mindy Gassman
	Treasurer	–	Erin Onions
	Principal	–	Steven Cotton

### Regular Business:

- Call to Order - called to order virtually at 6:32.
- Approval of Minutes – approved as written
- Treasurer’s Report – For July, there was no income and two checks issued for the track resurfacing.
- Principal’s Report –
  - When the district opened Hopewell, approx. 20% of the Pleasant View students moved to Hopewell. Forest Grove is opening this fall and Pleasant View has approx. 650 students. Some grades are at or close to capacity. Not including kindergartners, there are 85 students attending Pleasant View this fall that have never been here before (open enrolls and moving to the District.) Pleasant View will still feel vibrant with these numbers.
  - Some teacher/staff changes:
    - Kelly Backas moved from teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> to teaching 4<sup>th</sup>
    - Mr. Peterson moved from teaching 6<sup>th</sup> to teaching 3<sup>rd</sup>
    - Sara Gassman will no longer teach 3<sup>rd</sup> grade as she has moved on to other opportunities. She will be replaced by Emma Crandall from Hopewell.
    - Olivia Childs will teach 6<sup>th</sup> grade. She was previously at Riverdale Heights teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and most recently at North Scott special education. Her husband is a counselor at Riverdale Heights.
    - The ESL teacher has resigned, so the other two ESL’s in the district will assist. Liza Peters has been assigned to Pleasant View.
    - Rachel Gotto was previously the dean of students, shared with Riverdale Heights, and in charge of the district’s elementary special education. She will now be full time at Pleasant View. Her day will be spent 95% on discipline issues, while Mr. Cotton focuses on instructional leadership. Dr. Cindy Lewis will be in charge of the district’s elementary special education.
    - Mrs. Dexter retired from the office, and Cherish Sticker will be replacing her as secretary. Cherish was formerly a recess aid and copy room attendant, and most recently working at the high school.
    - The instructional coach Carrie Moberg has left, and will be replaced by Teresa Harington, formerly the reading specialist.
    - Laura Hook will be the reading specialist.

- Thank you to everyone for a very successful spring walk-a-thon. The funds raised this year and in the past have allowed the school to resurface the walking path. The dirt surrounding the path will be seeded when the weather cools.
- Classrooms around the library have new carpet.
- The custodians and stripped and waxed the floors.
- Thursday will be meet-and-greet.
- Online learning will not be facilitated by Pleasant View teachers as it was last year. Edgenuity will be delivering online learning but parents or a tutor will need to be with the students for most of the time. Orientation will be later this week. If you elect online learning, students will be committed for that term.
- COVID 19 update: We are not out of the woods yet. The majority of our elementary student population is unvaccinated. The school cannot encourage masks, but Mr. Cotton believes he will be wearing one, along with a fair number of teacher and students. Some will not. It is a family choice. Nothing more will be made of that. Mr. Cotton will not tolerate any child that questions, makes fun of, or calls out another student relating to masks, just as we do not allow that for any personal characteristic. This does not mesh with our character counts. Mr. Cotton will hold a meeting explaining this as he did in the spring.
  - The cafeteria will have 8 students to a table. Maybe more or more white tables will be used. No dividers.
  - K-3 grade students will be in the hallway outside their classrooms from 8-8:15. At 8:15, the teacher will issue hand sanitizer to each student and allow them to enter the classroom. 4-6 grade students will be in the cafeteria until 8:15, when they will use hand sanitizer and enter the classroom.
  - The school will try for 3-6 feet social distancing but it will not always be possible. Hand sanitizer will be used. All will be mindful of where others are and be considerate/respectful of mask decisions.
  - No zones at recess
  - We are basically starting the school year like we ended it.
  - Quarantining will not be like it was before. The State of Iowa is handling COVID like the flu. Anyone sick with symptoms shall stay home and be fever free for 24 hours before returning. Mrs. Hanson will monitor the health of the building. If there is a known COVID case, notification will be sent stating “there is someone in the class that is COVID positive. Be on the lookout for symptoms. If symptomatic, consider calling your physician or getting tested.” There will be no online learning for someone out sick. The student will be absent, and parents should work with the teacher to get homework or make it up after the fact.
  - Volunteers may come back into classrooms. No lunch visits as there is not enough room in the cafeteria.
  - Classroom parties will probably be allowed, but this will be decided based on the temperature of the community as the event gets closer. The safe snack list will be used for birthdays.
- Mr. Cotton is looking forward to a successful 2021/22 school year. The health issues that kept him home at the end of last school year are no longer an issue – he has been given a clean bill of health. Reach out to him or Mrs. Gotto if you need anything.
- President’s Report –
  - There have been no recent superintendent meetings.
- Vice-President’s Report – Karyn Green, Megan Barone, & Susan Smith
  - Megan thanked everyone for the generous donations for walk-a-thon. She will be working with Karyn on the 6<sup>th</sup> grade events this year. School supply boxes will be delivered Tuesday morning.
  - Karyn noted that 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents will be getting information about Mornings with Moms soon.
  - Susan noted there will be sign-ups for room parent at meet-and-greet. Susan also chairs the yearbook. If you would like to help with the yearbook, please reach out to her.

### New Business:

- PTA meetings can be held in person, and will be held in the evenings this year. An option to attend these meetings virtually will probably be possible.
- Fall Fest
  - Not much is planned at this point, but it will be held outdoors at Pleasant View on September 17. It will be a smaller scale than usual, but the goal is a fun event for the kids. It is the PTA's largest fundraiser. There will be food, funky mart, raffles, and wristbands. We really appreciate any help or donations. Basket signups will be available – these can be a theme or anything except alcohol. In the past, each classroom organized a basket, but with such short notice and no class email lists available, this may not be the case this year.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade parent committee
  - Mornings with Mom will be held outdoors September 24. All 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents will get a Zoom meeting invite email for more information on how to help.

### Old Business:

### Announcements:

- The next meeting will be held in the Pleasant View Elementary library on September 13 at 6:30 PM.

Adjourned: The virtual meeting was adjourned at 7:13 PM.

- Meet and Greet – Aug 19
- First Day of School – Aug 23
- Early Dismissal – Sept 1
- No School (Labor Day) – Sept 6
- September PTA meeting – Sept 13