



Pleasant View PTA Meeting Minutes

Date: September 13, 2021

Time: 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Place: Pleasant View library

Present: Amy Featherstone, Steven Cotton, Mindy Gassman, Karyn Green, Valerie Campbell, Megan Barone, Susan Smith, Theresa Needham, Erin Onions, Betsy Recker, Laura Kies, Tiffany Holz, Julie Mann, Noor Adam, Melissa Gilroy

Board Members:	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
- Principal’s Report – Steven Cotton
 - Pick-up/Drop-off Zone – There are more drop-off/pick-up’s than in other years. Some neighbors are not happy. It is an exercise in patience. We try to use the whole length of sidewalk. The goal is to be done by 3:15 each day. We need to work on the cars that are leaking out onto Crow Creek Road. Brian Strusz is aware of the issue. The sooner we get kids in vehicles, the sooner we are done. We are not done analyzing and improving, but are limited by the road.
 - Durham school services – Bussing is not off to a smooth start. Some are running fine, some are running late, some notifications are late. They have just enough drivers for the routes. The notifications are getting a little better. For a while, the superintendent was meeting with Durham every day. Both this and the Crow Creek Road issues were brought up at the school board meeting tonight.
 - COVID-19 – Pleasant View had a classroom greatly impacted last week. That classroom put a different model in place for students absent but still able to engage in learning. With 20% of students were absent, the school must deliver ELA and math virtually. Mrs. Backes’ class had a trial run of a new pilot model to live stream and record lessons. Mr. Cotton called 26 families on Friday to prepare for the temporary model for the following week. We did NOT close the classroom – if a child is not sick or symptomatic, they could come to school. This was NOT hybrid, nor was it 8:30-3:30 in front of a screen. The teacher used Google classroom and paper assignments. It is not ideal, but the teachers felt it was manageable and supports kids and parents who want learning. Pleasant View has had more cases than other schools in the District. We don’t know if others are having parents report? There were 10 classes and 1 staff affected.
 - Notifications – If a student tests positive, e-news sends notifications to parents in the classroom to the effect of “there has been a positive case – if your child is symptomatic, please consider seeing a doctor.” There is no contact tracing. Parents should watch their child more closely.

What happened in Mrs. Backes’ class didn’t happen last year. Mr. Cotton can’t tell any family to have a child wear a mask. He was uninformed (at that moment) about the day’s legal happenings – that goes through the school board. A number of parents have come to Mr. Cotton’s office asking him to do something. He can’t do anything. The desks are spaced as best we could, but

Mr. Cotton went to each classroom and improvements were made. Social distancing reminders happen whether masks are worn or not, especially when lining up. Hand wash and sanitizer are used, even though we know it is airborne. When kids are in the lobby for the late bus, they are spread apart and seated.

- The evening custodians are typically responsible for emptying trash and vacuuming. Last year, they also disinfected desktops. This year, teachers have disinfectant and microfiber towels. It is very costly for the District to supply wipes. Mrs. Backes was doing this two times a day. The daytime custodian wipes door knobs, locker handles, water bottle filling stations.

There have been 15 parent reported cases out of 650 kids. Strep is also going around. The COVID cases have been concentrated classrooms. We will learn from what Mrs. Backes is doing and use that as a pilot for the District. The Jr High and High School have had less cases – possibly due to vaccinations. Mr. Cotton has expressed concern to three of the four local lawmakers so far. Two were empathetic conversations, one was passionate/spirited. Mr. Cotton wants to share what our reality is here at Pleasant View. Parents come with both conversations. This is a social-emotional moment for kids and us all. Priority has been made for social-emotional by using the 2nd Step and Harmony curriculums. The school based therapist is seeing kids in school; 16-18 families expressed interest.

Several audience questions were raised/answered as follows:

- Why do some COVID notifications arrive later than others? COVID notifications are based on what the school is told. Once the school is made aware, notification goes out that day. The nurse asks when was the last day of school attended. Timing depends on the type of test. Testing is up to parents – the school cannot tell them how or where to get tested.
- Do teachers need wipes donated? Some teachers prefer wipes over the school-provided disinfectant. Individuals wishing to provide these can reach out to teachers directly.
- Have there been any enhancements to the air filters? The building was retrofitted to have AC in 2003. It pulls air from the outside, but not through HEPA filters. They make sure they bring in the correct % of fresh air. Great improvements were made last year as it was stuffy in some rooms before.

Mr. Cotton expressed that he had hoped we'd be in a different place, and we are, but dealing with these issues in a classroom. We'll continue to manage/mitigate as best we can.

- Treasurer's Report – Erin Onions
 - There were three deposits and two withdrawals (tax return prep and general liability insurance).
- President's Report – Amy Featherstone
 - The Reflections theme is "I will change the world by..."
 - There is a bus driver shortage. Training takes a couple weeks. There are 32 routes and 32 drivers. Some coaches are getting their licenses to drive buses to sporting events.
 - COVID-19 – the District website maintains the number of cases.
 - October 1 is the enrollment count date. Last year was 5,060. This year is 5,314. The count is usually up 100 but was up 250 this year. Fourth and ninth grades are the largest in the District. There were 89 brand new students to Pleasant View despite Forest Grove opening up.
 - The PTA does not have a special education subcommittee, but we invite people to keep this in mind and consider things such as hosting a quiet hallway during indoor events.
 - Lego League – Pleasant View has ten students and two coaches. If more students are interested, more coaches will be needed.
 - Venmo is not to be used for non-profit donations. We are looking into using paypal or square. Venmo is ok for person to person (room parent collections). The high school was notified by Venmo after selling tickets to a dance using Venmo.
 - The QC Ballet program will probably be on hold. No decisions have been made on classroom parties or conferences yet.
- Vice-President's Report – Karyn Green, Megan Barone, & Susan Smith

- Mornings with Mom will be Friday, Sept 24. Forms went out this week. 6th Grade parents should see a special e-news email looking for volunteers. There was a meeting on Zoom. Thanks to all willing to help.
- A thank you note for all the food, snacks, and support was received from Jessica Waterman.
- Room parent update -There is a Zoom meeting tomorrow. Two classes still need room moms.

New Business:

- Fall Fest
 - Update – Wristbands and meal tickets will go home Wednesday.
 - Needs this week – 25-30 volunteer spots still open
- Bus Drivers needed
- *VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!*
 - Fall Fest games (Sept 17)
 - Variety Show Co-chairs (February 4)
 - Kindergarten Registration (Date TBD)
 - Yearbook helpers – If you are at an event, please snap pictures and text to Amy Featherstone or Susan Smith. They are working on setting up a picture sharing site. If you enjoy making Shutterfly books, please consider helping to edit the yearbook pages.

Old Business:

- Homecoming parade was nice and well attended. They used some of our games for the carnival.
- School supply boxes – Some boxes had damaged pencil boxes. These have been replaced. Let us know if we missed any.
- There has not been any news if flu shots will be offered in the school this year. Mr. Cotton will ask Mrs. Hanson.

Announcements:

- Fall Picture Day – September 17
- Fall Fest – September 17
- Mornings with Mom – September 24
- Early Dismissal – October 6
- The next meeting will be held in the Pleasant View Elementary library on October 11 at 6:30 PM. A virtual option will be available.

Adjourned: The virtual meeting was adjourned at 7:26 PM.