

CHAMPLAIN PTO

PTO Meeting Minutes Nov. 14, 2019

DRAFT

Attendees: Vanessa Berman, Katlyn Morris, Jessica Blackman, Rebecca Grannis, Erica Houskeeper, Kerrie Mathes, Alisha Laramée, Paul Shepherd, Angela Duquette-Catlett, Alex Chernyshov, Heather Chernyshov, Joe Resteghini, Megan Warda, Janet Breen, Jake Rutter, Jessica Vallani, Betsy Patrick, Tammy Charbonneau, Sara Brown, Lisa Torchiano, Aziza Malik, Susan Ames, Sarah Lagault, Abainahim Amir, Kayla Gokey, Jen Eringis, Mike Eringis

Holiday Procedure Statement

Principal Resteghini reported that teachers and staff have worked on a holiday procedure statement that will be shared with the Champlain community in the Blue Note and on the Champlain Community Facebook page. The purpose is that “teachers and staff at Champlain Elementary School recognize the importance of equitable practices, shared culture, and being inclusive of all members of our community.” He wants to vet the statement through the community first, and he encourages the Champlain community to read the statement and share any ideas or feedback with him.

Staff and Volunteers Needed

Principal Resteghini has requested a position to hire for lunch monitor and a recess monitor. Volunteers are also needed for lunch, recess, Morning Champs, and front office support. A volunteer workshop will be held the week of Nov. 25.

Classroom Liaisons/Emails

A discussion about the roles of classroom liaisons highlighted ways to support teachers and also the issue of liaisons accessing parent/caregiver email addresses and concerns raised about privacy (emails being used for personal or promotional purposes). Paul Shephard will reach out to Russ Elek, communication specialist for the Burlington School District, about best practices for emailing, and report back at the PTO’s December meeting.

BSD Budget Update

School board member Mike Fisher reported that the school district is starting the budget process for 2020-21. He doesn’t believe there will be major changes to budget. System leaders—i.e.

principals—will talk to the school board about budgetary needs and priorities of their individual schools. Champlain parents/caregivers should contact Principal Resteghini if they have input. The school board will approve a proposed budget in January. The budget will be put forth to the Burlington community for a vote in March.

Superintendent Search

Mike Fischer said the school board is considering the structure of the superintendent search in the wake of Superintendent Obeng's resignation announcement, which will take effect in June. The board is budgeting for a national search. The board wants to balance getting input from the community with getting the word out as it is hiring season for the 2020-21 school year.

Holiday Drive

The PTO is looking to support Champlain families in need this holiday season. Jessica Blackman will contact Leanne Couture in the Guidance Office to let her know that the PTO can provide whatever support is needed to help the community. Language about giving season will also be drafted and provided to Mike Eringis to post on the lobby screen.

VENMO

In addition to PayPal, the PTO agreed there is a need for a VENMO account. Rebecca Grannis will set up a VENMO account.

Important Dates

- The Scholastic Book Fair will be Nov. 22-26 in the Champlain Lobby.
- Volunteers are still needed for Souper Fridays in November.