



Meeting Minutes June 30, 2020

Attendees (via Zoom call): Jessica Blackman, Vanessa Berman, Katlyn Morris, Rebecca Grannis, Erica Houskeeper, Kerrie Mathes, Angela Duquette-Catlett, Alex Chernyshov, Heather Chernyshov, Alisha Laramee, Jen Coleman, Betsy Patrick, Joe Resteghini, Mike Fisher, Janet Breen, Karlie Gunderson, Amelia Gulkis, Cassie Lindsey, Andrea Rumsey, Cheyanne Warren, Garrett Kimberly

Plans for outdoor classroom: Principal Joe Resteghini updated the group about plans for an outdoor classroom space to be ready for the fall. The space will need to fit a full classroom—20 students and two teachers—while allowing for everyone to be six feet apart to maintain social distancing guidelines.

The outdoor classroom will be a pavilion space for play-space learning, activities, and where kids can go to retreat outside. The classroom will be next to the row of blueberry bushes near the school garden.

Joe has connected with Essex Tech Building Trades Instructor Shawn Rouleau to build the classroom and also is working with Marty Spaulding of BSD. The classroom, which will need a zoning permit from the City of Burlington, would meet ADA requirements and provide easy access to the school's main building. It would be built in a way so that the building can be moved to another part of the school grounds, if needed.

The total cost for the project is \$5,000. The PTO will contribute \$2,000, and Joe is looking for other fundraising and grant opportunities to pay for the project.

Black Lives Matters Flag: Joe is proposing to raise the Black Lives Matters flag and LGBTQ Pride flag on the first day of school. PTO board members discussed the importance of including students in the raising of the flags and including it into the curriculum.

While there is no formal approval process for raising the flags, Mike Fisher of the BSD School Board suggested Joe run his plans by the Superintendent and then to the School Board. Teacher Betsy Patrick emphasized that if Joe is on board with raising the flags, the teachers and staff will certainly be on board.

Nominations for PTO Board for 2020-21 School Year

The board will vote on the nominations at its July 28th meeting. If you are interested in nominating someone for the board, especially for a Member at Large position, please contact Jessica Blackman at jessica.wesley@gmail.com.

Jessica Blackman – President
Vanessa Berman – Vice President
Rebecca Grannis – Treasurer
Angela Duquette-Catlett – Secretary
Erica Houskeeper – IT/Website and Communications
Kerrie Mathes – Event Coordinator
Betsy Patrick – Teacher Representative

Members at Large:

Katlyn Morris – (also PTO District Liaison)
Alex Chernyshov
Heather Chernyshov
Alisha Laramee
Jen Coleman
Meghan Fitzpatrick
Cassie Lindsay
Brettan Martell

Next PTO Meeting

The Next Meeting will be Tuesday, July 28 at 7 p.m. via Zoom.