

JSSVPA BOARD MEETING - September 15, 2021

Attendance:

Board Members: Jen Riefe, Eleanor Husman, Amelia Hannus, Julia Peterson, Nora Jewett, Stephanie Joyce, Kathy Ambrosino, Joe Guarino, Sarah Halack, Robin Stone, Beth Ottsen, Jennifer Dixon, Hilary Kallop, Pamela Norris, Claudia Kocalis, Kristin Pilant, Bridget Pennise

Attendee: Kate Donegan, Stephanie Helfand, Shawn Bard

1. **Approve August 25th Meeting Minutes:** Robin motioned to approve the minutes, Sarah and Kathy seconded. The minutes were approved.
2. **Principal/Superintendents's Report: Stephanie Helfand:** 5th Friday of school is already coming up! Principal advisory council update: our students know what the committees are and are working through developing 2 initiatives, within each of the 5 committees: a). Diversity, equity and belonging b). Improving the learning experience c). Improving the school experience (rules, policies and procedures) d) Whole school events and school spirit e). charity and giving back . The students will be coming to a consensus on their top 2 initiatives, under each of the 5 committees. Other than helping to guide them, this is very much student led. Opportunities will present for them to come to JSSPVA for assistance with some of their initiatives.

Kate Donegan:

Lunch: looking into smaller tents or tarps to bring kids outside in colder weather; exterminator has been contacted to take care of the bee situation, with the ultimate goal of having the kids outside, as much as possible.

Thank you to everyone on the JSSPVA - so many wonderful collaborations and the school is very excited for homecoming, September 25th. The class from 1960 will be the first tour of the school at 10am. Student ambassadors from the Principal Advisory Council will be at the: JKK hub, auditorium, the Link (renderings of new construction will be here, with administration on hand for support), Industrial Arts, Gym, LTC, to answer questions, etc. This is the last chance for this view of the school, with construction starting in May. Also the best opportunity to get pictures in any special areas of the school for family history, etc. Joey the Panther will be on hand! The booster group is working to contact previous alumni, through email, Park district, Sears to Home. Suggestion was made to provide a computer where alumni attendees can input their contact information, for future Homecoming events.

3. **Presidents Report (Robin) :** Update on Homecoming Dance: 100 kids are signed up for Among the Pines (7th and 8th grade) Marty and Stephanie will kick off ; event is raising money for the Tree Heritage program.
One other reminder: Please participate in upcoming events where you can, as we all get back "into the groove". As an example, chess only has 3 kids currently signed up - this was previously the most popular event.
4. **Treasurer's Report (Valerie and Stephanie):** Last fiscal year: spent 45% of budget. From Valerie, thank you to Stephanie for setting up the google forms for payments, all receipts are now on the Google drive. Use the form for expenses ; if you are a Chair person, please put the JSSPVA treasurer email as approver.

5. **VP of Sub-Committees (Beth):** running smoothly with all subs

- a) Book fair - on track for in person
- b) Enrichment - field trips being planned - 4th grade coming up to Feed my Starving Children; 3rd grade going to the Heller Nature Center
- c) Creative dramatics - enrollment is currently low on chess, debate, and creative dramatics, in danger of not being able to proceed d) Display. - all good
- e) Lost and found - is happening!
- f) Room parents: busy, Chairs have met with all room parents, cocktail parties have kicked off,
- g)Sears cafe - running every day
- h)Picture day - Monday (20th) is JK-7th (happens during PE) ; 8th is Wednesday (23rd) and all photos will be outdoors. i)Veterans Day (Mindy Kelly is in charge) - any new family that has served, we'd like to capture for this event. Please contact Mindy

6. **Benefits Chair - (Hilary)-** Iteration # 2! The Benefit has shifted from February, to the last weekend in April, outside in tents ; indoor is not feasible in February. Keeping the same original theme (top secret!). An invite for volunteer sign ups will be coming out. Location options are Townley, Assembly Hall lawn, Mahoney water side, but parking is an issue. Currently working through all logistics.

7. **VP of Inclusion (Joe)-** newcomer party- 120 people attended this event ; tables of 8 kicked off , with the 2nd invite coming soon. Marty Heffernan is in process of completing the application for Special Olympics. Common Threads (bingo game) has started and we are printing the cards this week to distribute to the classrooms. First day of gathering the winners will be 10/1.

8. **VP of Green (Julia)-** Heritage Tree: 7/8th are being asked for donations at Among the Pines, 1st-6th would be bake sales, maybe after school

when there are volleyball games ; JKK still trying to figure out their fund raising program.
Outdoor Classroom open house was very successful - scavenger hunt, plant give away, there are still plants available, for anyone who would like to go by and pick up.

Bike /walk to school: Oct 6th - not sure if a single day event, or week long. Students will log their participation, with prizes.

9. VP of Community Relations (Jennifer)

- a) Park District: basketball is coming back inside this winter, registration is currently open
- b) Food trucks still happening until end of Oct, every Monday
- c) October Fest is 9/25, before Homecoming
- d) Village 125th Anniversary Block party is on October 10th, at Assembly Ha;;
- e) School Board: Budget has been passed

Superintendent's report: Enrollment - school is working on nursery numbers ; lots of new families have moved to the community with little kids
Principal report: COVID - some new guidance on return to school testing is coming in Sears to Home; Fall screening assessments and use of this data: a multi tiered data system is taking MAP and Aims testing results to ensure individual learning plans are established for below and above average kids. Dr Helfand is compiling a report to present to the community (look to the Board Packet for more details); 5 essential survey results from student and teachers - look at these results in Board Packet. School scored high on having a supportive learning environment and peer support safety ; low of effective leadership and professional development for teachers.

Update from Lisa - Budget: we've been operating in a deferred maintenance model for quite some time , currently on a 5 year cycle of reviewing materials of instruction, textbooks, experts to review our programs. Social Studies review is this year. Technology is another deferred maintenance. - lots of devices are 7yrs old, typical is 3-4 years; professional development is to be tied to more strategic initiatives with teacher involvement.

5 essential survey - 50% parent participation, 97% student participation and 85% teacher participation. Survey is done by U of Chicago and the 5essentials are as follows: supportive environment, ambitious instruction, involved families, effective leaders, collaborative teachers. From teachers: Professional Development has room for improvement and how feedback is taken, used, developed into a realistic plan and school is being held accountable; other area for improvement is in garnering teacher feedback. The parent data was not shared at the meeting. 5 essentials has always been required, we have year-to year data for comparison and a wholistic view. This is part of our school rating. Transparency of information is key, with a School House that is open to feedback. History is shown in the survey, year over year. The report is available for viewing in the Board Packet.

f) Girl/Boy Scouts - has started with lots of outdoor activities. Scamper on Jan 28th is back for girls ; boys are camping out on Sept. 25th g) New

Tier - placements testing is Nov 13th for 8th grade ; some renovation work is going on at NT. NT is also offering free COVID testing at campus
h) Family Action Network: we do not have liaisons for this or Child Alliance. Please advise if anyone is interested. i) DEB: meeting dates are posted on their website and starting meetings to reflect on last years work, and then planning forward. Refer to DEB website for more information.

j). Lunch: thank you to 5/6th grade parents for donating tables, so the student can eat outside.

10. Booster (Homecoming) (Kathy and Amy) - the day is looking great! . Tours in the morning, then go to Pep squad (29 girls are registered - K - 5th grade) , move over to Mr Gordon's 'Fight song" -choir will sing and pep squad will act live to it. 1pm is kickball (60people - parents/kids), round robin, medals, and big winning trophy: a flag bearer will run across the field (top secret!), prior to everyone going out on the field. Concessions and craft tables will be set up as well spirit wear to purchase. Communication - recent and local alumnae (park district, village newsletter, local stores). The week long spirit events and the dance on the 24th evening, all lead into the main day. Please, please come and participate ; always looking for more volunteers. Bring cash!! :)

11. Staff Appreciation (Nora): 5-6 additional days have been requested from Stephanie. Next one is Conference days, looking for ideas for the Custodian Day . These are National Recognition Days. Teachers Lounge - can we restock the area for snacks? Previously, it was done quarterly. It was, a very big hit in the past.

12. Adjourn : Robin motioned to adjourn, seconded by Sarah and Hillary

NEXT MEETING: October 20th, 2021 at 8:20am

Respectfully submitted by:

Robin Stone, President

Janet Scholl, Secretary