**PTO Meeting**

11/4/2020 – 7pm, hosted via Zoom

Called to order 7:04pm

In attendance – Principal Herlihy, Lori Zinner, Barbara Mauger, Sue Johnston, Gat Rauner, Jess Lourie, Raina Jathar, Jen Behr, Liz Flaig, Sharon Morgenbesser, Xiaodan Xie, Joris Gjata, Avi Shahal-Schiffer, Steven Telio, Vera Procaccia

**General updates – Principal Herlihy**

Tents are compromised by snow, and are being removed. Have alternative plans for mask breaks. Even with new mask rules, can still take mask breaks if done safely. Interviewing for a few positions – teachers going on maternity leave etc. CCC will be opening up – in close communication with CS re CS rules and working together. School committee – working on K-2 extension.

**Picture Day review – Lori Zinner**

Hosted 3 picture days (cohort A, cohort B, DLA). Good turnout for DLA – was moved due to weather/high winds; 80-85 of 110 kids attended. Working on retake day; complicated as can’t do outdoors in winter, or have adults in building; probably in spring. Class composite pictures will be after retakes done. Photos available in mid to end November. Will be delivered to school for hybrid kids; will coordinate pickup for DLA. Working on DLA composites as multiple schools for some classes – hopefully Coffee Pound can do this, but if not, will find a way for kids to have class photos.

**Back to School Night**

Good attendance. Went well for teachers, and parents seemed to receive well. Great video.

**Pumpkin Contest – Sue Johnston**

Had 50 pumpkins entered. Judging performed by the community. Winners received $20 giftcard to learning express for each kid. Was a great success, and will plan to do this in the future.

**Annual Fund update – Joris Gjata**

Donations underway. Will run thru 11/25. Emailing thank you letters. Have had ~25 families contribute. At this point last year, had 50 families contribute, but is strange and different year. Xiaodan Xie – we have extra spiritwear; could use this as a gift. Could use for other contests ie Green Team or other. Could also have kids design tshirts. Could try to sell exta spiritwear. Could use this to try to raise money for 5th grade – they have limited options this year. Will further review offline.

**CAS – Kerry Prasad and Steven Telio**

CAS goal is to bring programs, in-line with NPS curriculum, which have been approved by committee. Trying to find way to bring programs this year that are equitable. For virtual programming, will be $2-8 per student, so cheaper. DLA students will do programs with their home schools. Choices – curriculum related, like honeybee lady, or Ghana presentation; but these are related to units, so timing has to be right. Teachers are used to these. Another option is non-curriculum specific – generalized enrichment like dance, art, music; would fit into arts curriculum. Can be at any time of year. Another option – authorfest. People expressed not just adding another Zoom. Ones that complement curriculum would be nice. If program was author related, would prefer to be interactive, not just reading aloud. Maybe should ask teachers and get their input. If on zoom, would want to imbed with teacher interaction, make more interactive. Non-curriculum probably would not work, as would be zoom, not interactive. Need to poll then update NPS, deadline is 11/10. Also want to make sure we are supporting local arts community. Teachers liked the origami presentation. Some kids enjoy zooms. Some do not. Some parents want to limit their kids exposure to screens.

**Food drive – Gat Rauner**

Collecting food now. Running in Update. People have already started to bring in items. As we get closer to deadline, can feature more prominently in the Update. ?Can we extend beyond 11/9, to increase donations. Maybe an email from Principal Herlihy to remind people.

**Community Puzzle project – Gat Rauner**

Working on getting puzzle pieces. Kids will color, and decorate. Need to work on options if some pieces aren’t returned. Send to DLA kids too.

**ELL Party – Xiaodan Xie**

Used to host a potluck; this year will be zoom party. Kids will do slide show and play Kahoot. So far just 4 responses. Not just ELL, but all families, are invited. Is 11/12 7-7:45pm.

**Directory – Julie Winsett**

Directory team is in final stages. Recently received additional data, and will circulate final draft shortly. Has 127 responses on survey for printed directories, and will print extras. Sending additional reminders about survey completion.

**DLA – Avi Shahal-Schiffer**  
Schedule structure, independent work, long lunch breaks are being discussed. Hoping to improve communications with others – this will improve with Directory/class lists. CS seems to be doing better than other schools. Schedule structure is challenging. Parent surveys are going out.

Gola is to connect DLA to home school and to peers. Assessments are starting.

Working on community building. Connecting to classmates, including Hybrid to DLA connections.

**Misc**

Green Team project – Sharon Morgenbesser. Working on Autmn Leaf craft project. Not many submissions. Snow may have thrown people off. Will probably extend deadline another week.

Garden Team – planning bulb planting project for this Sunday. Ran in Update; Julie will send blast for signups maybe Friday.

Future PTO meetings: will resume monthly meetings

Next meeting – Dec 2

Meeting adjourned -