

## Shepherd March PTO Meeting (March 24, 2021)

Executive Board Attendees: Liz, Taryn, Sara, Ayana, Andrea

### ***Meeting Called to Order at 6:30 pm***

#### **PTO Business**

- Sara Presented the meeting minutes from January / February 2021
- Andrea Provided a budget update for February – the opening amount, donations, and other miscellaneous revenue.

#### **Dr. Hedlund Updates / Questions from Parents:**

- In Person Learning
  - Allotted 3 Central Officer CARES workers
    - Replace 2 Deal staff members;
    - Open a fourth-grade care class starting Monday;
    - Open PK 3 class early
  - There will be 9 classrooms open for Term 4
    - Hoping to open 5-8 more – waiting on guidance from DC regarding cohort size increase
  - Waiting on info from DCPS about new guidelines re: cohort size
    - Waiting for information about 3ft versus 6 ft
  - She has an ambitious plan to bring as many grade levels / kids back to school as possible. But it is all contingent on cohort size and DCPS restrictions (some classes could have 15-17 kids even at 6 feet).
  - No real move to 5 days a week because they need the Wednesday to coordinate this year. She believes that time is invaluable for the teachers.
    - They have meetings and have to plan
    - Planning for virtual teaching takes hours
- Social Emotional Learning
  - Trying to contract with Responsive Classroom to come in for next year to do a 4-day training / with one for instructional aides
- Kindergarten Class
  - Ended up having contact with a few other teachers who have had to be out for a quarantine
- Wing B will be next (Wing C will take longer) for updating areas / preparing areas
- Leave for Teachers
  - This is done by central office
- Aftercare
  - No discussion from DCPS about permitting aftercare to reopen
- Summer Recovery Program
  - They are going to have every class but 5<sup>th</sup> grade
  - It will be open to kids who are below grade level in reading (1 or more levels)
  - Invites will go out in early April
- Testing Protocols

- 99% opted in to testing in SP so the 10% really is 10% of all IPL kids

#### **Update from Dr. Brown (School Psychologist)**

- Mental Health Services – she would like to expand services to include parents in addition to teachers / staff / students
- She would like to hold workshops and is open to suggestions from anyone who has them

#### **Community Engagement**

- It sounds like there might be openness to considering outdoor activities
  - Early June event
  - Looking for volunteers who want to help plan
- Before that we are going to host some virtual events
  - Baking Club
  - Cocktail Club
  - School Pictures

#### **Additional Updates**

- Community Center Conversations - Meeting with SPCA (Liz)
- PAVE Update (Meghan)
- Half-Court Basketball Court update (Taryn)
- Shepherd Gear – will ship once the campaign closes on 3/29 (Ayana)
- May PTO Committee Elections – call for volunteers
- PTO Audit – call for volunteers

***Meeting called to a close at 7:30 pm***