

Chippewa Parent Group PTO Meeting Nov 12, 2021

Attended by: Jody Noble, Liliana Ortiz, Hong Trebesh, Gayatri Rajaram, Paul Steiner, Soumya Madala, Marlo Johnson, Kristin Arnett, Karen Shapiro, Liz Luyendyk, Cheryl Smallwood, Munish Beri, Minhye Kim, Crystal, Steffanie, Kasim Korkmaz, Ike Iyioke, Ifeoma Iyioke, Sarah and Ian.

Meeting started at 8:30 am.

Minutes were displayed from October 8th 2021 for all to review. Motion to approve was called and supported by Kristin Arnett and seconded by Hong Trebesh.

Meeting minutes will also be added to the Chippewa School website following approval of Minutes.

Principal's Report:

-District Level Mascot Meeting has commenced. All Chippewa students were sent a google form to see if they were interested in these discussions. There were 33 in attendance and 4 among them were Chippewa students. Majority of the participants were from 7th to 12th grade. The general consensus from the students was to preserve the history of the District by maintaining the same school colors.

-Survey will be sent to students and families before Thanksgiving break about possible names.

-Goal is to have a new name selected by Spring Break.

-District Equity Director Dr. Lee, made a short video presentation that was sent to all students. It is an overview of the name change process and the reason behind the change from Chieftains to Chiefs to the new change. This video will also be shared with families.

- COVID cases at Chippewa have been on the rise. Contact tracing has revealed that the cases are not connected with each other. The School/District mitigation strategies seem to be effective based on this information.

- 7th grade camp: The camp was discussed and it has been decided to not have a camp this year. In place of the camp, 3 day field trip like event may be planned at Chippewa itself. This field trip can also be extended to include the 8th graders. More information will be shared following the Winter break.

-An adjacent school District recently took 7th and 8th graders to camp. They had a 45 student outbreak and had to close the schools for a few days. This occurred despite testing the students prior to the camp.

-Report cards: Trimester 1 will be ending on Nov 19th. Report cards will be mailed home on Nov 30th. M-STEP results will also be sent home along with the report cards.

-Substitute teachers are sourced from "EDUSTAFF" and they need to meet District criteria for staffing. CMS has been using "Aids" when they have been short of staff.

-ESSER funds (COVID relief funds): Additional funds have been approved for the schools. These funds can be utilized for after school activities. A group will meet and decide the allocation of such funds.

-Current clubs offered at CMS: New offerings are communicated in Chipp Snippets.

Drama club: will be doing their performance next week. Students worked hard; they are making props for the event.

Homework Club: Runs on Mondays and Tuesdays and High school students help tutor.

AMC: Information was just sent out. There is a test the students need to register for and take. Following the results, the students will be divided into groups and it is facilitated by the Gifted and Talented program director.

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Gaming club: runs on Fridays, has 15-20 students coming. Kids compete within the games amongst themselves. Kids complain about the equipment/materials being old.

Chess club: coordinated by the Community education.

Potential clubs on the horizon:

Art club: likely to start after Winter break.

Weight/Physical training club: Interest from Lacrosse Coach to start this club. CMS has a good weight room with many resources. More information to come.

Debate Club: was coordinated by a MSU professor in the past. Mrs. Nobel will try to reach him to assess status for this school year.

Treasurer's Report: by Hong Trebesh

Minimal activity since the last meeting. 3 checks were issued:

- State filing fees reimbursed to Hong Trebesh.
- Farm Bureaus Insurance fees \$85
- OEF table sponsor for Chippewa staff.

District Parent Council Update: by Karen Shapiro

Last meeting was hosted by Chippewa via Zoom.

Meetings held 3rd Monday of every month. All are welcome and currently being run on Zoom.

Mrs. Noble will share the meeting link and passcode on Chipp Snipps. Next meeting on 11-15-21.

Students are blending in well. Most teachers across the District have noticed that the students are somewhat "immature" for their grade level. Their maturity skills are where in person school left off in Spring 2020.

District Mascot meeting was discussed.

New Athletic Director interview was discussed. That position has now been hired.

Considering loosening of parent volunteer restrictions. Proof of vaccination and masking likely required. Decision has not been made yet.

Faith Lutheran Church has an early morning clinic to families to get sick child tested for COVID.

Plans to hire a new school Nurse.

District has a 96% vaccination rate.

COVID contact tracing has been a drain on staff due to the amount of time needed.

Substitute teacher shortage remains an issue. On average District short 9 subs a day. If anyone is interested, consider this position.

Additional COVID relief funds will be available for the District.

District Equity Director can give a presentation to parent groups about, "Building anti racist white educators." It is an hour-long presentation.

Teacher Holiday Gift Cards:

Chippewa Parent Group for the past few years has been coordinating the teacher gift card for Holidays.

It is to ease up the strain on families. It also helps identify the gift cards teachers would want.

Teachers will give the parent group information on the gift cards they would prefer.

A sign up will be created, families can then choose the teacher and the amount they want to send, in \$10 increments. The transaction is done via Paypal. The teachers will then receive the gift cards electronically.

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CPG Fundraising:

Amazon smiles program, choose Chippewa Parent Group.

Kroger Community reward program.

Attachment on how to enroll in these programs will be sent via Chipp Snipps.

Next Chippewa PTO Meeting on Dec 10th at 8:30 am.

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 am.