

PSO Meeting June 5th 2019 – 711 Main Street – 19h to 21h

Present: Beth Sanger (co-president), Tara Denkinger (co-president), Allison Larsen (staff liaison), Jim Ogren (staff liaison), Sheridan Haroian (Treasurer), Kim Palmer (former board member), Jamie Samione (member), Keri Schindler (member), Karen De Nys (member).

Last **Coffee Morning** of the year at school this Friday June 7: Kim Palmer will pick up and attend.

Junior class Escapade checking account: Idea discussed and approved to have 2 accounts (1 for even year class and one for odd year class). PSO would temporarily add the minimum required 300 \$ to the account to avoid checking account costs, until the class has made sufficient funds. (Meaning: as soon as the seniors of 2019 are done with the escapade, this account will be transferred to the class of 2021 and the PSO will “lend” the 2021 escapade committee 300\$. The class of 2020 will open a separate account NOW with the funds they already have. The access to this account will be passed on to the class off 2022 in June 2020, when PSO will also lend them 300\$, so that the account is never empty.)

New board members: Co-presidency will be continued by Beth Sanger and Tara Denkinger. This motion was presented by Jamie Samione and seconded by Sheridan Haroian. Remaining members voted unanimously in agreement.

New secretary and newsletter: Motion to vote for Karen De Nys was presented by Kim Palmer. This was seconded by Jamie Samione and all other members voted unanimously in agreement.

Treasurer: To be determined.

Treasurer report (Sheridan Haroian): Currently 19 000\$ left in the bank, minus approved grants which have not been claimed and bills for the dance which are being revised. (should be 500\$ for dance) Jim Ogren was asked to remind teachers via email to reimburse the approved grants asap (by passing on their receipts).

Principal’s report (Allison Larsen): Budget cuts explained, without getting detailed or personal. Decrease in staff (not only teaching) is not only due to the district budget cuts, but also due to decreasing student population. This population decrease also existed last year, but the school was able to compensate this mainly with retirements, staff taking leave of absence, ... then.

Master schedule is not ready yet due to the complexity of the situation. They should be ready soon. Class sizes are expected to be larger, averaging to 29 for core subjects. This does NOT include special programs and classes such as learning support, life skills, band, ...

Alicia Ferris will be retiring. Staff will be making their own coffee and copies (?)

During the budget cuts discussion, Jamie suggested the PSO could email State Representatives in the near future regarding these issues, advocating for education and funding.

Support from PSO was asked by the principal regarding an event to do with Mental Health of students and their families he is planning in the fall. (Mental wellness, anxiety, depression) A lot of ideas were exchanged. The PSO is definitely in favor and supportive but feels that this

topic needs to be handled with care. The event could possibly be announced on curriculum night, but should take place in an intimate, safe setting, not with a big crowd. Sign-up for the event was suggested, and a generally attractive approach such as “Surviving high school”.

Teachers report (Jim Ogren): Many thanks, amongst others from Alicia Ferris.

No further news from certified staff.

Next meeting: ?? To be determined?

Report: Karen De Nys