



West Side PTG Meeting 11.2.20  
Via Zoom  
Start Time 9:33am

Attendees: Janene Keegan, Bernadette Flynn, Laura Massaro, Laura Feller, Tina Zarro, Linda Silver, Stacey Guinan, Alison Hazut, Julie Starrett, Janice Elkin, Amelia Brogan, WSS PTG members attending via Zoom

**Bernadette Flynn: Welcome and Thank You**

- Thank you to Katie Zarboutis and Dennise Iannou for school photos
- Huge thank you to Dawn for Boofest, great for school spirit, kids loved, teachers loved getting baskets
- Approval for Sept Minutes - Janene Keegan & Dawn Pologruto

**Janene Keegan: Volunteering**

- Even things look different this year, still need volunteers, welcoming any and all ideas, eg Dawn's Boofest that she ran with.
- Any behind the scenes also greatly appreciated.
- Even PTG not allowed in the school building
- Trying to do as many things as possible for the kids this year, with Alison Hazut's help it's been great.
- Boofest so great
- Fall Fest - all the kids loved, even 6th graders loved
- Need 6th grade parent to chair yearbook, last run at West Side. Have spirit photographers taking pictures so don't need to take pictures. Big job, big commitment but can buddy with a friend. It's all an online program.
- Alison Hazut re yearbook: Alison chaired yearbook last year to have the kids involved. Due to Covid & closure lost momentum with kids' meetings. Kids can really do the yearbook, with all going on this year school can't fully take on but vision is that 6th graders can take on with guidance from a couple parents.
- Bernadette: Website has been updated with what is needed from a volunteering perspective, can reach out to any Board members with questions, also best to reach out to VP of Committees: Laura Massaro & Laura Feller.

**VP Committee Updates: Laura Massaro**

- Holiday boutique being moved to Spring
- Holiday Cookie Bake - idea is to replace with mason jars filled with candy, pre-packaged cookies, any ideas are welcomed.
- Yearbook chairs needed

- Online Auction idea for Win - any ideas? Any big ticket items people can donate?
- West Side Run - hoping to do in Spring
- Apparel Sales going very well, Janene working with Woodbury Sports to see if more items can be offered. Masks will be included in next sale. Adult masks run small FYI.
- Edra's online sale still open.

Bernadette: Coat Drive will be extended through Thanksgiving, please launder and put in plastic bag labeled. Box in Airplane wing for donations.

Halloween Candy Drop in Airplane Wing until the 9th - to go to Mission as well

6th Grade Barn Dance is May 20th

Alexis & Emily working with Mrs Hazut on virtual cultural arts programs, Dave Rocks, Theatre Works, working to firm up dates. Trying to keep things going as best we can even though more virtual, kids are priority right now.

- Questions re Yearbook, can contact Laura Massaro or Laura Feller & then Alison Hazut if additional questions.

#### **Thanksgiving Food Drive: Lauren Jasinski**

- Boxes will be dropped off and teacher's can pick up, will send a class list as usual.
- Nov 13th is date needed to be delivered for Mission
- Not sure if they can collect money for turkeys this year, if too complicated for teachers.

#### **Alison Hazut:**

- Today very windy day, windows open to support ventilation, hope kids are wearing layers as she mentioned in Friday's notes. Lowering windows a bit bc papers are flying around. Will get harder to modulate temperatures, best to have layers and peel off. Please label clothing.
- Traffic - lots of traffic on 25A and Stewart - has reached out to Mr Stucchio to ask Oyster Bay Cove for police support in directing traffic. Happy that parents are driving as ventilation & distancing on buses not the best. Friday buses pulled up with windows up bc of rain, she asked drivers to put windows down a bit. Very happy that based on survey, more ppl are choosing to drive. Also spoke with Mr Stucchio re traffic light there, he's going to look into it some more to see if chance to put a light there, it's a state road. Also good for parents to reach out.
- When Moores Hill road is closed due to drainage, rain, ice they are the days that there is greater backup of traffic. Dangerous intersection so sounds like not an area police can do something about as has been discussed in past.
- Should parents reach out to Oyster Bay Police to voice concern? Per Alison Hazut can't hurt, could help to call and let them know we would love their support.
- FALL FESTIVAL - Alison Hazut met with PTG Board to see how it could happen, traditionally happens after school, couldn't happen this year so had to hold it during day. Relied on Exec Board to be present during those days, unfortunately

she couldn't open it up to other parent volunteers. Couldn't have pulled off without Emily, Alexis and Exec Board. Will be other opportunities for those who voiced interest in volunteering for Fall Festival. Great energy for kids. SIT has met a few times this year and has agreed to focus this year on Community Building and has agreed on Turkey Trot - Nov 20th - will have some sort of race around perimeter of building. Leading up to the event will have a Spirit Week. Can come up with some fun ideas, kids can vote on how they want to celebrate spirit week, what they want it to look like. Will engage 6th graders to check in & see how spirit is going, some type of point system and incorporate canned drive. The more we can do to have connection as a school since we can't truly engage physically, events like these help remind everyone that we are one school, one community.

- Academics - have done several assessments at beginning of year, more done than typical with idea that there could be gaps bc of closure in March - had many less hours of instruction from March-June so wanted to see what those gaps looked like. They used a diagnostic tool - F&S Assessment to look at reading, comprehension and understanding. When look at them across the school they were by and large the same as they would have been and have been in past. It was a wonderful surprise that Alison Hazut attributes to children reading a lot over closure. Did see a reduction in math skills due to closure as to be expected. Have the kids present at the conferences so they can hear their strengths and weaknesses so they can be present in goal setting, maybe not entire time but definitely beginning or end. Small group instruction is best way to engage children - a lot has changed from traditional teacher at front of room. Teachers now teach from 15-20 minutes and then do small group teaching, this has been somewhat compromised during Covid. Still have a desk to do small group learning, must be a lot more creative at this time. Social learning is a social process, still striving to preserve that in a creative way.
- Any pick up changes have been communicated to teachers, security etc... 77% now driving (18 additional families shifted out of buses into driving, Alison Hazut happy).
- Band/Orchestra comes in at 8:15am, Laurel Hollow entrance very first door to enter, security will be present. Early morning service provider, kids enter at second door and service provider waiting to receive them. Student representatives - once a month at 8:15am will enter from same door used by Band/Orchestra.

#### **Upcoming:**

- Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza Fundraiser - every Wed - curbside pickup, mention West Side
- CPC meeting this Thurs at 9am - will send out Zoom Wed evening
- BOE meeting on 11/10.

Janene Keegan: Three BOE members on our Zoom right now - Elkin, Starrett, Brogan on Zoom - any questions for them can ask now. No questions asked.

Alison Hazut:

- Turkey Trot - will tie in West Side Kids Care food drive - when boxes come will have classes decorate boxes, graph can collections per grade - can finish by 13th and launch Spirit Week with announcement of tallies of donations. Previously kids all donated \$1 of their own money, they would give to Helping Hands Mission & they will purchase turkeys. Can't have kids count money this year but if we can get 11 containers - like the UTZ pretzel containers with a slit at the top or a shoe box with a slit on top so kids can slip money in without touching.

### **Zoom Questions/Comments:**

- Can we have kids vote tomorrow to coincide with election day? - can they vote on something related to Spirit Week?
- Edra Tepper: New family coming into District with 5th grade boy, friend of a friend, will reach out to some 5th grade moms to see if they can welcome this new 5th grader, perhaps a Zoom so he can have a familiar face. Edra sent new family the contact info for PTG Board, Spirit Wear info.
- Any updates on kids' ability to use cafeteria?  
Alison Hazut: we've been using the gym last week to eat with the rain. We have a new Maintenance Director who has been working with Alison, Stucchio and Matt to map out new Univent ventilation system. System has been ordered and infrastructure work needs to be completed before installation. Likely sometime in January. Even when that is installed, to maintain 6 ft physical distancing while eating will still have to eat in 3 places: cafeteria, gym and community room.
- Will the classes be separated when eating? So as to avoid two class shutdown when eating?  
Alison Hazut: We don't have the space to split them up but we have chosen assigned seats in gym and sitting by class so as not mixing cohorts. Ventilation is excellent in gym. Behind the gym door is the orchestra room with windows and a great ventilation system & they have been opening that door. When DOH makes determination about quarantine, they ask a lot of questions about ventilation. Alison Hazut has been in close contact with Mrs Herschlein and Mrs Campbell to learn through Goosehill quarantines what works best which is how assigned seats have come about. Can't use classrooms to eat bc not 6 feet everywhere. That is why there are staggered snacks. A,B,C snack groups - looks like a tic tac toe board...snack takes a lot longer, ie 30 minutes. To stagger lunches in the same way would take too much time out of the school day. Haven't yet moved kids into spaces where other kids have been - that's something to discuss as a District, trying to not let that happen - if we move classes into other classrooms to eat would also then have to sanitize each desk shield. Have foggers to

sanitize gym between lunch periods which is excellent. If separating classes out would have to fog all classrooms.

PTG Meeting Ended 10:37am