



Agenda

September 20, 2021 - 6:00 PM
Bel Air Elementary School IMC

- Call to Order Lindsay Stachon
- Introduction of board, members in attendance Lindsay Stachon
- Board Members: Lindsay Stachon, Pam Anderson, Jason Schmidt, Katie Hoffman, and Dawn Wiegand
 - Missing: Erik Odden
- Principal's Report Dawn Wiegand
- **Enrollment:**
 - 721 students (1-5) - down one section of 1st grade and 5th grade; 760 students were projected for this year last spring
 - **New Staff:**
 - Colleen Moore, Nurse
 - Cory Grider, Tech. Support
 - Katie Miskowic, Intervention
 - Juli Vig, Orchestra
 - Marjie Hay, EL Teacher
 - Jennifer Veeramachaneni, EL Teacher
 - Karen Hummel, Special Education Guide
 - Olivia Lickteig, School Psychologist
 - Alisha Sandy .8 STEAM specialist
 - Hinda Ashour, Nutrition Services
 - Tonya Krawec, Custodian
 - Brianna Riedel, SRO
 - 2 - TBD - lunch/recess supervisory paraprofessionals
 - **Covid Updates: Katie Hoffman, Covid Coordinator**
 - District is posting weekly updates of case counts
 - Keep students home when sick
 - Positive cases - contract tracing is occurring
 - Quarantining only if unmasked exposure for more than 15 minutes within 6'
 - School contact - 7-10 day quarantine; can test out of the quarantine
 - Household contact - 14 day quarantine
 - Positive case in the classroom; all families in the room will receive a letter
 - Students are doing a great job masking
 - PCR tests are accepted; school will soon be able to send home Binax tests
 - For students home sick - materials will be provided by the teachers, including chromebooks, school also wants to give the space for people to recover if they are sick
 - **Safety:**
 - Fire drills(5) lock down(5)- tornado drill(1)
 - **Communication:**
 - Meet Your Teacher/Open House- Individual Family meetings
 - Grade level presentations/website

- Bel Air Update - Every Friday
- Dawn requested feedback on Back to School night - new format, longer one on one time slots with families and teachers with time for students to explore building on their own
 - Principal Feedback: appreciated being able to meet and greet all new families at the door
 - Teacher Feedback : liked the new format, less chaotic
 - Parent Feedback: liked the format and additional time, good for students with special needs or who are shy, parents were able to meet with the teacher and support staff at the same time, one drawback - specialist lines were very long
- **Playworks - Coach Kevin Mee**
 - Playworks - school is continuing with Playworks this year; a coach comes 1 day per week and works with the paraprofessional staff to help build more structured play time/games
 - 4th and 5th grade students will have the opportunity to apply to be an assistant coach
- **Bel Air Common Communication Nights: Grades 1-5**
 - Tuesday, November 9 – 3:45 – 6:45 p.m. (Open House)
 - Tuesday, November 16 – 3:45 – 6:45 p.m. (In person)
 - Thursday, November 18 – 3:45 – 6:45 p.m. (Virtual)
 - Tuesday, March 1 – 3:45 – 6:45 p.m. (Open house/in person)
 - Thursday, March 3 – 3:45 – 6:45 p.m. (Virtual)
 - Tuesday, March 8 – 3:45 – 6:45 p.m. (In person)
- **Events:**
 - Picture Day - Thursday, September 23
 - No School - Friday, October 8 - Teacher Learning Day
 - No School MEA - October 21-22
 - PTA sponsored fundraiser - APEX October 26 - November 4
 - Picture Retake Day - Thursday, October 28
- **Elementary and Secondary Relief Fund/American Rescue Plan [ESSER III Funds](#)**
 - ESSER - Elementary and Secondary School Education Relief Funds
 - School has received funds for 2 years; one final allocation coming
 - Year 1 - technology needs were funded
 - Year 2 - masks, sanitizing stations, free meals for students were funded
 - Year 3 - will be decided at the district level - Dawn is looking for ideas on how the funds should be spent
 - Dawn is recommending flexible seating for classrooms
 - Parent input:
 - What does that entail? What are the benefits?
 - Akin to standing work stations, exercise balls that many parents have at their work stations. Allows for the students to move and or sit comfortably in the way that promotes learning
 - Includes stools, rocking chairs, foam chairs, cushions, modular desks that reconfigure easily

- General consensus is support from the PTA meeting attendees; Dawn will bring to the district

Budget Update

Jason Schmidt

- In transition
 - Have \$41,000 in savings
 - Last year earned ~ \$18,000 (Apex, Give to the Max)
 - Last year spent ~ \$18,000
 - Looking forward
 - Estimating Apex will return to higher returns
 - Pre-pandemic close to \$35,000; this did include K students
 - May be closer to \$25,000 moving forward
 - Projected expenses for this year ~\$37,000
 - Includes student/staff t-shirts, classroom allocations, teacher allocations, special requests, support for specialist events at school
 - We have a healthy savings account
 - Past practice was to have 1 years worth of expenses in savings
 - We will need to dip into savings dependent on what Apex returns
 - Updated budget will be provided at the October meeting for approval
 - Discussion will include getting input on how large of a savings to maintain

Fall Events

Pam Anderson

- Apex Fun Run
 - Is the schools only fundraiser; provides over 50% return to the school
 - Apex provides 3 staff full time for the duration of the event; provide leadership training to students
 - Will be held Oct 26 - Nov 4
 - Limited scheduling available
 - historically held in September; during the pandemic we moved it to May so it could be held
 - Did not want to hold it immediately again in September; shifted to later in the fall
 - Will be the remix version again (think individual dance or exercise moves)
 - Discussion on the individual rewards
 - Why do we do them? Can we stop them?
 - We have asked them to scale it back - it is no longer promoted/advertised; much more subtle
 - Classroom prizes are awarded when a total is reached (extra recess, for example)
 - Suggested actions: Can we look into donating the prizes?
- Book Fair
 - Scheduled for Nov 15-17
 - Classroom hours only at this time; will re-evaluated closer to the fair if we can hold an evening fair during Communication Night
 - Will need volunteers - masked and with an up to date background check

Other items

- Discussion on other mechanisms to raise money
 - Can parents direct donate - yes
 - Can businesses donate - yes, send a check to the Bel Air PTA

- Are you a nonprofit? If so, many companies have the ability to match donations. - yes, we can get information out on that
- Thrivent Grants will also donate - people can check with their financial advisors
- Boxtops - are they an option - school has a pile of them that need to be processed; one parent noted the program has changed and a receipt is required
 - One parent volunteered to look into it (Sara?)
- Threshold COVID numbers from the state - last year we had numbers to look at - why not this year?
 - Katie - it wasn't working like intended
 - Last year we were unable to trace any classroom spread of COVID
- What was the percent of students in the school last year, compared to this year?
 - September 2020 - 225 M/W students, 227 T/Th students, 282 distance
 - April 2021 - 538 students in school full time/191 at home
 - Fewer classrooms; just as full as our classrooms are this fall
- Traffic - 5th and 17th (south of the school towards Hansen Park)
 - Looking for parent volunteers to help kids cross the street
 - Patrols are not posted there
 - Dawn will add to the eNewsletter
 - Parents - please spread the word

Adjourn

Next meeting:

10/18/2021 - 6 PM - Bel Air Elementary School IMC
Childcare provided by YCARE (in Gym area)