**11/18/2021 SCC/PTO meeting minutes**

Attendees: Ann Bills, Sarah Kelly, Katherine Kennedy, Laurie Shea, Kelly Boren, Cindy T, Liz Gleason, Cherie Farnes, Stacie Lawrence, Chris Foster, Michael Sorenson, John Kelly, Kristin Petersen, Marcia Archer, Pedro, Brooke Rupp, Sarah Rupp.

Mr. Kelly (Mayor of the school or King of the school depending on which of my children you ask) - Free Nutrition Class

* USU wants to offer a nutrition class to parents. The program is new and we will discuss it with the SCC in January 2022 to learn more details.

Laurie Shea (our fearless, 4 ft 11in art teacher) - SEP art show and Culture Night

* Ms. Shea wants to display student artwork and bring back Art and Culture night.
	+ In the past, Art and Culture night had artwork in hallways, dance performances, food, booths, crafts
* Format will be different this year because of COVID.
* SEP conferences (Student Education Plan aka Parent-Teacher Conference) is February 9th and 10th, 2022.  Ms. Shea wants to display students' artwork during the conferences so parents can see the student artwork when they meet with teachers.
* To celebrate culture, teachers, parents, and students will help to compile still photos and brief videos that will be compiled and shared with the Washington community
* Mr. Kelly was willing to collect videos. We have a precocious 5th grader in our community who enjoys sound editing for podcasts and may be interested in helping with video editing.
* Goals: Show parents what the children are learning about cultures in their classrooms, help students to think of themselves as global citizens
* Video clips can include:1st graders coloring flags from the different countries that are meaningful to them and their families, 3rd graders learning about indigenious peoples, videos of cooking food from your culture, doing henna, sharing books in your native tongue, etc.
* Use Class Dojo and flyers in multiple languages to spread the word about this year's Art and Culture night
* Mr. Kelly will bring up our discussion with the Culture & Community teacher group that meets monthly

Liz Gleason (resident bibliophile) - Read-a-thon and Book Scavenger

* Last year while students were engaged in remote learning, Washington had a read-a-thon for their fundraiser. It was a big production and fun for the whole school.
* This year the Read-a-thon won't be combined with a fundraising for the school
* The Read-a-thon starts February 11 and goes through March 4 (parents will be reminded of the read-a-thon at SEP conferences that week)
* Ms. Gleason read *Book Scavenger* by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman. The students loved it and Ms. Gleason thought our school community would enjoy our own book scavenger hunt
* Amy, the children's librarian at the Marmalade library, has agreed to hide a book for a student to find in their library. She will also hide other books for students to find there.
* Ms. Gleason wants to recruit others to help her hide some books in public spaces in the Washington neighborhoods and the write up hints to find these books.
* We discussed having the scavenger hunt over the two week break in December.

Sarah Kelly (PTO president, NELP teacher, and master life juggler) - Jog-a-thon

* Before the pandemic, the school held a jog-a-thon to help raise money for the school
* We will bring back the Jog-a-thon this year
* The running will stay on school property this year instead of down neighborhood streets
* Date for the Jog-a-thon is May 20th, 2022

Mrs. Kelly - Art Contest

* We are holding the schools are contest separately from Art and Culture night
* Theme of the art contest is "Change Over Time"
* Submissions for the art contest will be from April 4 - April 15

Cherie Farnes (parent, nurse practitioner, and our beloved SCC chair) and Mr. Sorenson (Vice Mayor of the school) - Parent involvement

* Mr. Sorenson is meeting with a few families in our schools' Latin community (they make up 15% of our school)
* They next meet December 2nd and Cherie will also attend and invite them to be involved in SCC
* Reasons why they haven't previously been involved - language barrier
* Mr. Sorenson will invite an interpreter to attend our meetings to help those parents
* Other ways we can get more involvement for the School Community Council
	+ Cherie is updating posters from 2019 and putting them in places that are more visible to parents
	+ Mrs. Lawrence uses Class Dojo to tell parents (Ms. Gleason also agrees that Class Dojo is the #1 way to communicate with parents)
	+ Handing out flyers
	+ Compiling emails or phone numbers from parents that want to get more involved
	+ Posting dates and agenda items
	+ Bribery (e.g. donuts)
* 2020 was a difficult year for community engagement with the pandemic. The School Community Council has grown since then and will continue to grow.
* We want parents involved from each grade

Brooke Rupp (the taker of minutes) - 1st Quarter Parent Advisory Meeting

* Superintendent Dr. Gadson started the meeting discussing the reasons why parents have left the Salt Lake City School District
	+ Parents lost trust in the leadership and the school board
	+ Some parents are going to wait and see if they want to come back
	+ Parents found programs at other schools not offered in their neighborhood school
* Parents brainstormed together various student needs and came up with three general areas
	+ Vulnerable populations - homeless students (~600 students), LGBTQIA+, refugees, medically fragile, students with dietary allergies, special ed, students of color
	+ Wrap around service - free or reduced lunch, mental health, neuro-divergent, special ed
	+ Academic engagement - ELP, gifted, college/career readiness, STEM, the arts, multiple language learners

Important Dates:

* SEP conferences/Art and Culture Night February 9 - 10, 2022
* Read-a-thon February 11 - March 4
* Notify parents of the school's art contest the week of March 21st, 2022
* Spring Break March 28 - April 1
* Art contest submissions due April 4 - April 15
* Jog-a-thon is May 20th, 2022
* Field Day is June 1st, 2022 (also Mr. Sorenson's birthday)

Sidenotes:

* Ms. Shea will only be with us until Martin Luther King Day. We are so grateful for the creativity she inspires in our students and we will cherish the next few months with her.
* Cindy T both mentioned in future years involving Middle School and West High Students in our Arts and Culture night
* Kelly Boren can connect us with West High art students that want to collaborate on art with our elementary students