



Home and School Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2021

ATTENDEES:

Officers: Kim Jaquez, Theresa Sebestyen, Kate McFarlane and Christine Taber

Staff: Jaime Veal, Ryan Samz

Parents: Kerry Behrendt, Angie Golembiewski, Ashley McKandry, Rachael Morris, Jen Herald, Molly Wehking, Bailey Larsen, Jackie Anderson, Jessica Cross, Amanda Spiczenski, Mindy Landisch, Tia Levesque, Tonia Micale, Debby Berenz, Kate Kanichirayil, Lara Bristol, Yogita Patel, Kristen Perhach

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS
Call to order & Introductions	The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm. Officers, staff and parents were introduced.
Principal/ Associate Principal's Update	<p>Jaime Veal and Ryan Samz gave an update on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jaime Veal introduced Ryan Samz, new Associate Principal. They thanked families for coming, noting excitement at the number of new kindergarten families. • Jaime shared about the new assessment, Fastbridge, which took the place of MAP. The screener will still be administered 3 times/year (Fall, Winter, Spring) with the goal to help shape individual instructional plans for students. Jaime asked that parents talk with students about testing to support preparations happening in classroom. The results should be visible in Infinite Campus around the middle of October and may look different than MAP. • New Social Studies curriculum called McGraw Hill was implemented this year. It was piloted last year by 2 Elmwood teachers and other teachers in the district. • Teachers will be posting weekly updates on the Canvas app, including what they're working on in different subjects. More specific details on what's happening in the classroom will be available on Canvas for students out on quarantine. • Makers Space sponsored by Home & School can be better utilized this year with loosened precautions. Digital Coach will be working with teachers to refresh them on the tools, such as the 3D printer. The goal of the space is to support students working collaboratively to develop solutions for real world problems. • Jamie thanked volunteers who assisted with Chalk Love for first day of school (Kim Jaquez, Theresa Sebestyen, Tracy Graf and her daughter Addison, Kate McFarlane, Rachael Morris, Christine Taber, Elaine Gearheart and Kate O'Donnell), Molly Wehking for personalizing hand sanitizer for the school, Kate McFarlane for taking all staff photo and for her and Kim Jaquez' Staff Appreciation chocolates and thank you cards. • Ryan Samz shared about Social Emotional Learning at school. The first part of the year focuses on building SEL skills in the classroom, with the goal to reinforce the second semester. Staff are supporting virtual families reintegrating back into the classroom. September 29th is Anti-bullying Day. Ryan and Library staff are planning programming around inclusivity, respecting and embracing differences. • The School District added a Social Worker this year, Claire Sorge. Her home base is Poplar Creek, and she will be at Elmwood 1/week. Her role is to support students individually, lead groups, etc.

Review/Approve Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ashley McKanry motioned to approve the May 18, 2021 Home and School Meeting Minutes, seconded by Angie Golembiewski and approved by all.
Treasurer's Notes	<p>Checking account balance is at \$50,531.26 (\$10,639.42 belongs to the chess club). Available cash is \$27,580.04.</p> <p>Kate McFarlane presented current budget update for 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>Forms for reimbursement and deposits can be found on the Weebly site. Parents can drop forms with receipts in the Home & School mailbox (Kate will check on Fridays) or e-mail to Kate for faster turnaround at kate.mcfarlane@yahoo.com.</p> <p>Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income Section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Tool Box and Spiritwear are pending. Fundraising Section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$6,000 budgeted for Gaga Pit was not needed after 6th grade legacy donations. Total cost for both the K-3 playground and the 4-6 playground was \$4,622. 6th grade Completion gift donations came to \$3,404 (2021) and \$556 (2020 rollover) with \$662 contributed from Home & School. Net Zero Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seat Sack Income and Expense will even out in the future. <p>Theresa Sebestyen motioned to approve the proposed budget, Ashley McKanry seconded the motion and it was approved by all.</p>
Upcoming/Canceled/Revamped Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall Fest is on hold again this year – Ryan Samz and Theresa Sebestyen are compiling community local fall activities to share with families. Kate McFarlane shared about Raise Craize, an alternate to the Fun Run as our big fundraiser of the year. Students raise donations for the school and pay it forward by doing acts of kindness. Kids can sign up on the website to collect pledges. The site includes suggested acts of kindness, including socially distant options. The organization keeps only 10% compared to 25% with the Boosterthon. Event will be held during World Kindness Week (November 8 – 12). Kate McFarlane noted Matty's cards are currently being printed. The owner is an Elmwood family and the discounts are a donation to the school. The only cost is for printing. Matty's cards will be sent home with every student and will also be available for purchase on the Weebly website. Angie Golembiewski and Kerry Behrendt, Book Fair Co-Charis shared about Fall Book Fair the week of September 25. Teachers sign up for classroom visit times. Every student gets one free book and can purchase additional. The event earns Scholastic dollars for the school. Teachers also have wish list baskets for families to buy books for the classroom. Another book fair will be held in the spring. Skate Night at Incredi-Roll (Hwy 100 and Oklahoma) is scheduled for October 7th at 6 pm. The space is rented out exclusively by Elmwood for the night. Theresa Sebestyen is also looking to set up a Family Ice Skate at Petit for a Sunday afternoon in the late winter/early spring. More information to come. Theresa Sebestyen is setting up Restaurant Eat and Earns. Some restaurants are not participating due to staff shortages. Noodles and Company is scheduled for Thursday December 9th. 25% of sales will go back to Elmwood. More events to come. Kwik Trip car wash cards are being moved earlier in the year to sometime in November. Could be a good stocking stuffer. Sales will again be available on Weebly.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student raffle will hopefully be held in winter. Students can purchase raffle tickets with prizes of donated activities, special jobs at Elmwood like announcing on the today show or doing something fun with a teacher, etc. • Aiming to hold spring dance in early April and HID on Friday June 3rd.
Open Floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kate Stintson, Literacy Coach and Co-chair of School Literacy Committee presented plans for a “Read Across the School” event in October. The goal is for the entire school to read the same book and participate in activities that connect school to home. Virtual learners will also be included. After an extensive search for a book that could appeal to K – 6 grade and tie-in Social Emotional Learning, they settled on <i>A Boy Called Bat</i> by Elana K. Arnold. There will be a website with recordings of teachers reading chapters, quizzes with prizes and raffles to build excitement. The site will be shared in Paw Prints, on teacher pages and on Facebook. The school has a quote for \$2,205 for 630 books at \$3.50/copy. Theresa Sebeysten has also reached out to Scholastic for pricing to potentially earn Scholastic dollars. Parents inquired if siblings could share a book. Kate Stintson responded individual books are needed for reading to happen concurrently and for kids to bring their book to class for activities. School leadership is asking for \$2,250 from Home & School to purchase the books. Debby Berenz motioned to approve, Rachael Morris seconded and it was approved by all. • All Elementary H&S in the District hold funds for chess club. Chess club is not currently active, but may return later this year. • Parents were encouraged to look for Home & School information in Paw Prints, the Home & School Weebly website and Facebook page.
Adjourned	<p>Ashley McKanry made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Karrie Behrendt seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm.</p>