

Minutes of the Oakley Park General Membership Meeting Held Wednesday October 7, 2020

A meeting of the Oakley Park PTA General Membership was duly held virtually through an open Zoom meeting for Oakley Park Elementary School.

The following individuals were present:

Sarah Garrison – President
Debbie O’Rourke – VP of Family Events
Jessica Maurer – VP of Communications
Valerie Novaes – Secretary
Kristin Froning – Principal
Bobbie Sue Young – VP of Volunteers
Laura Tubbs – Teacher
Linda Grinnell - Teacher
Alexa Naemi
Antonio
Seth Taboh
Caroline Sadler
Cora Leibowitz
Daniel Choi
Deana F
Gevonna Washington
Jen Mathis
Jessica Waxman
Julie Holdwick
Karina Ortega
Kate Williams
Kristin Rypkowski
Lisa Kumpula
Nora German
Rashell Kellerman
Rhonda Barbat
Theenda O’Flynn

Sarah Garrison convened the meeting at 7pm to discuss the various items of old and new business. A brief introduction of board members was made. Valerie Novaes recorded the minutes.

Outgoing Presidents Report – Sarah Garrison

- This is Sarah’s last meeting as PTA President. She expressed gratitude for letting her be the President and looks forward to continuing The PTA would normally do a full PTA Board vote in April but due to COVID, the Michigan PTA made recommendations to not complicate things more and continue with the current board through late summer/early fall.
- The following 2020-2021 PTA Board Positions were presented for a motion and vote:
 - o President: Jessica Maurer

- Vice President: Sarah Garrison
 - Treasurer: Debbie O'Rourke
 - Secretary: Valerie Novaes
 - VP of Membership: Diane Yanalunas
 - VP of Volunteers: Bobbie Sue Young
- A motion to approve the 2020-2021 PTA Board Positions was made by Sarah Garrison and presented a poll to the group to vote. **2020-2021 PTA Board Position motion approved.** 26 in favor and 0 in opposition.
 - With the new 2020-2021 PTA Board in place, a request for a motion to remove Trisha Rouse and Amy Hager from the Oakley Park PTA checking account and add Jessica Maurer and Debbie O'Rourke was put on the floor.
 - Motion was made by Sarah Garrison and seconded by Laura Tubbs. **Motion was approved via poll vote to remove Amy Hager and add Jessica Maurer and Debbie O'Rourke to the bank account.** 23 in favor, 1 opposed.
 - Parting words to the outgoing president: from the bottom of Kristin's heart, the last few years have been amazing. Leadership, confidence and energy of Sarah has truly been inspirational, exciting, done right by both the students and staff (with buckets of gratitude).

Treasurers Report – Debbie O'Rourke

- Budget will be posted on the website for everyone to review.
- The PTA had a large carryover of funds from last year (~\$31k) due to most of the spring events being cancelled which are the higher cost events (all school field trip, book fair, science night, etc).
- Amazon Smile is now accessible through iPhones, still accessible through all other phone and service providers. This is a great way to connect your Amazon purchases to the school.
- The 2020-2021 expenditures include:
 - A "virtual" book fair
 - Providing \$150 per teacher for classroom needs
 - Providing an additional \$10 per student for enrichment
 - Providing an additional \$3k allocated for the school for post-COVID related return to school items
 - Providing t-shirts for all students
 - Paying OPE Membership to the PTSA
 - Liability insurance
 - Staff appreciation event
 - PTA sponsored school year supplies
- MLK celebration this year will be virtual so no money for food will be requested from the PTA.
- A request for a motion to approve the 2020-2021 PTA budget was brought to the virtual floor. Motion was made by Sarah Garrison and seconded by Debbie O'Rourke. **Motion to approve the 2020-2021 PTA budget was approved.** 26 votes in favor, 0 opposed.

Incoming President's Report – Jessica Maurer

- This year, the PTA is not planning any large family events, but still remain very active and committed to the school community and continue support the students and keep families engaged from a distance.

- There will be a pumpkin decorating contest in October and the Reflections contest will be supported and sponsored by the PTA again this year.
- The PTA will still be providing kids with drawstring bags and t-shirts.
- Please consider becoming a member of the Oakley Park PTA if you haven't already (oakleyparkpta.com). The membership cost this year was reduced to cover the cost that is paid to the Michigan PTSA and is only \$7.50 per family. Becoming a member shows great support to the students and staff.
- There will be three more general meetings this school year (January 13th, March 10th and May 12th).
- Access to the OPE student directory was made available last month. Special thanks to Debbie O'Rourke for getting this up and running so quickly. Everyone should have received an email from the "OPE PTA via Directory Spot" with login information. If you didn't receive the email, check your spam folder. If you still did not receive the email, please reach out to the PTA at OakleyParkPTA@gmail.com.
- Notifications will come from "OPE PTA via Directory Spot" about meetings and events. The OPE PTA Facebook page is also a good source of information.

Principal's Report – Kristin Froning

- Kristin expressed her appreciation for the entire PTA Board. OPE is very fortunate to have the support.
- The PTA will be looking for additional volunteers for different events/activities as the school year progresses if/when events occur.
- There is a lot coming at everyone these days and Kristin will be using the term "for now" as things are constantly changing.
- Kristin does not yet know the first day of in person school but it will be sometime the week of November 2nd.
- Parents will be receiving more information in the coming days and weeks.
- It is unclear if OPE will remain on the 9am-4pm school schedule when the return to in-person instruction occurs or transition back to the 8am-3pm schedule. There are many layers to the final decision that will need to be made. Fine arts teacher availability is a big factor. **[Later information provided after the meeting confirmed OPE will remain on the 9am-4pm schedule]**
- In the next couple of days, parents will be receiving a survey asking if your child(ren) will be following 1) My Path, 2) Our Path, or 3) In-person learning starting the week of November 2nd.
- There is an upcoming parent meeting on October 13th. Please reach out to Kristin with questions or concerns.
- The biggest question or "rock" is with Our Path/In-Person instruction. Parents are wondering whether their child can continue with the same teacher they have now and for now, Kristin cannot communicate how everything will shake out. The decision will be made based on survey results and what is best for teaching staff based on health and personal circumstances.
- School supplies: if your child is returning to in person learning, please bring notebooks, folders, math journal and planners back. An email confirming which supplies should come in to the classroom versus stay at home will be provided as the return date gets closer.
- PPE for in-person learning: this is how the school will keep the kids safe and masks will be required by all people in the school building for the entire day. There will be mask breaks throughout the day. OPE has a team of 15 staff that are planning and preparing the school and procedures for a safe return. More details to come.

- The school is going to create “cohorts” by classroom and keep that group together and away from other “cohorts”.
- Owl Pickup: the procedures are Owl Pickup will need to be tightened. The school is planning to operate in “cohorts” where students travel around with the same group of students. With this process, Owl Pickup will be revamped and new procedures will be communicated.
- Sanitary items will be in the classrooms and are all school safe ingredients.
- Hallways and school areas will be labeled so kids know where to be and roam and not roam.
- The first few weeks of in-person learning will be focused on the new routines in place and the new plans to learn.
- OPE is exploring options for the cohort lunch that could include lunch in either the cafeteria or gym or in the classroom (but food allergies are a concern) or a combination of the cafeteria and classroom mix.
- It is unknown at this time whether PrimeTime will be available.
- Question was asked about returning white boards? Kristin will get confirmation and provide communication of school supplies to return.
- Question/comment was asked about messaging for those kids that are not returning to in-person learning. Kristin will remind all staff and be sure to communicate letting all students and families know that they are part of OPE regardless of the learning option chosen.
- Question asked if a parent chooses “Our Path” and then later decides to revisit in-person learning, will this be allowed? Yes, but the timelines for “switching” are unknown. If there are extenuating circumstances, please communicate with Kristin and she will do her best to accommodate if possible.
- Question about if a parent chose face to face and if things got bad and the school had to close, would we go back to the “way things were”. Answer is unknown but indicators will help the District know and it could be a quick pivot in a return to virtual learning. Who might be leading that virtual learning is unknown.
- Will masks be mandatory during in person learning? Yes, mandatory for all day for all students. Unless a medical condition does not allow a mask and a waiver will be needed.
- Question regarding maximum class size for return to in-person learning? There is no change in the classroom size from pre-COVID maximums.
- How will the new teachers know where the student left off in curriculum based on their previous learning path? The curriculum across all learning paths has intentionally and strategically been structured to stay in the same learning materials for all schools for each grade level.

Jessica Maurer adjourned the meeting at 8:12pm.