

AV-W Parent Group Meeting Minutes November 09, 2021

Call to Order: 8:05 a.m.

Present: Sarah Coon Byram, Maggie Fossen, Carrie Morris, Beth Schillinger, Stacey Mleko, Nancy Collins, Gwen Pritchard, Vanessa Giles, Peggy Enden

Secretary Report: Secretary reported that the September minutes were sent to the Parent Group (PG). Monthly minutes will now be posted to AV-W Parent Group section on the school website. PG sent school wide email requesting help for SLCs, and also requesting that any parents interested in PG please respond and they will be added to future PG communications. Multiple parents responded; Secretary will add parent emails to the PG email list for all future PG communications.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer reported the profits for Believe fundraiser and school apparel sales. Payout for playground equipment has been made and finalized. Request for paying for Senior T-shirts from the prior school year never submitted to PG and was likely funded elsewhere; cost will be removed from PG expected expenses. PG is up to date on all balances.

Discussion on the option to consolidate PG bank accounts to one savings and one checking account to streamline funds. Discussed the option to open a PayPal or Venmo account for future fundraisers, so parents could give monetary donations to the school without other entities taking a fee from donations (as Believe fundraiser keeps 25% of monetary donations given through the Believe website). Mr. Fortier will follow up on the option for PG to set up an account for this purpose.

Staff Report: Mr. Fortier gave the following school updates: The school has 9-10 new teachers this year and all is going well with new staff. Also the school has had many Guest Teachers this school year, which has been going well and no issues noted. He noted that even with Covid still present in the community, AV-W school is maintaining the goal of students meeting instructional minutes. Girls and Boys Basketball is in season with student participation and teams are doing well. The school has 5 Muskie fish currently; DNR will take 3 and the school will keep 2 until spring. Discussion of drop-off/ pick-up procedures with regards to bussing and safety of students was discussed. Mr. Fortier in communication with bus company on best practices with student safety being the primary focus. AV-W plans to open the gym for local pickle-ball group, volleyball/ basketball. There will be a Powwow held on December 3rd in the gym. Holiday concerts will be virtual this year. Next Tuesday November 16th, there will be a student-led celebration for local veterans in observance of Veteran's Day. SLCs will be held Tuesday and Thursday of this week.

New Business:

Student Led Conferences (SLC): Parent Group helping provide and set up meals for teachers Tuesday and Thursday. Park City local bank donating pizzas for Thursday's meal.

Rotary Representative Jason Orloff: Jason presented to PG an application that was made to the local Lakeland Rotary Club Community Projects. This application was completed by AV-W STEAM teacher Erica Krueger. The proposal to Rotary requests funding for "Lego League Challenge" supplies. This equipment could be used in the classroom (grades 4-8) and also for an after school club similar to a Robotics club. The requested budget would provide classroom packs for 24 children and/or an Expansion Set which would provide hardware and building elements for this group. AV-W students familiar with some of the components used with the program such as Scratch- which students use in STEAM class. Options to fund in phases was discussed. Jason discussed the grants available through the local Rotary Club and was inquiring on the possibility of PG supporting this venture and/or matching funds Rotary may provide if Rotary granted funds to this project.

PG discussed that typically they review applications for funding in spring for the following academic year. It was also discussed that PG usually does not fund after school activities, but tries to fund things that benefit the entire student body, or entire classes such as field trips, buses, upgrades to outdoor learning spaces, etc. Those present discussed if supporting such a venture would be in accordance with the PG bi-laws, or if funding in addition to Rotary should be sought elsewhere. Mr. Fortier explained that funding something such as this would need to be approved through Jocelyn / School Board. Any follow up from the PG would likely be the spring grant proposal.

Meeting with Jocelyn: It was discussed that a separate meeting with Jocelyn would be beneficial to discuss PG finances, etc. Sarah will follow up.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:45 a.m. The upcoming Parent Group Meeting will be held on Tuesday December 14, 2021, at 8a.m. in the AV-W Parent Group room.