

GPA Regular Board Meeting August 26, 2019 6:30 P.M.



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- 1. Call to Order - 6:31p.m. by Chris Dempsey**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance - 6:31p.m.**
- 3. Roll Call - 6:31 p.m. Chris Dempsey, Jen Reishus, Brandon Henry, Mike Phillipich, Stephen Teague, Dan Speer**
- 4. Approval of August 26, 2019 Board Agenda - 6:32p.m. Motion by Brandon Henry, Seconded by Jen Reishus, Discussion - Mike Phillipich realized that the PTO Update was not on the agenda so we need to add it. Chris Dempsey stated to move the Board Dashboard (Principals report) down to (8) making PTO update (7), Stephen Teague acknowledged said changes and will update accordingly. Brandon Henry updated his original motion to reflect the stated changes. Jen Reishus again seconded the motion. All BoD members voted (I) motion passes 5-0**
- 5. Approval of June 26, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes - 6:33p.m. Motion by Brandon Henry, Seconded by Jen Reishus, All BoD members voted (I) motion passes 5-0**
- 6. Comments from the Public - 6:34p.m. Jamie LeVake (Garden Club) Has questions for the BoD's to see if there is any objections to her having a garden harvest pot luck on Sept. 22 at 3p.m. at the garden site. No one sees an issue being that GPA with take possession of the building on Sept. 17th. Mrs. LeVake also wants to know if they can put a Book Box next to the garden on school property? Chris Dempsey asked to have the request in writing to the BoD just to be able to review. The Board stated that may need approval from the HoA and Chelley Bresnahan stated that Diversified group is who would need to be contacted. Mrs. Levake asked if a pad lock can be placed on the frost free water and give the code to Admin, maintenance, board, office and garden members who would be watering? Chris Dempsey stated that is a good idea. Mrs. LeVake is wanting to know when she can move the garden and other items over and she was told anytime after the Sept. 17th date. Mrs. Levake want to make the Garden Club a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization so that she could go out to vendors for fundraising opportunities, The BoD's does not see an issue with this and stated that this would make things a little easier for her and all involved. Mike Phillipich stated that they just wont be related to the school, they will be similar to the PTO as a separate entity, with an operating agreement and/or communication agreement that outlines how to make requests to the BoD and School. BoD stated that no teachers or staff should be on the bank account so that there is no financial entanglement. No other comments from the public.**
- 7. PTO update - 6:40p.m. Butter-braid Fundraiser starts Sept. 3rd, Trunk or Treat is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 31, but it is only the Trunk or Treat and not the Dance**



afterwards as in years past, because its on Halloween and a school night, so they will only need the parking lot. Emily Phillipich asked about the neighborhood coming to the event at the new school and Chris Dempsey stated “I don't believe we can stop them” so this brought up the next question about security and Stephen Teague has worked with Scott Hunter on that and stated that he has already contacted CSPD and waiting to hear back from them on that. PTO does not see a need for security at the dance and it was stated that it wouldn't be a bad idea. Dan Speer stated that they had already requested two officers for the Trunk or Treat but did not know at the time the dance would be on a separate date. Dan expressed concerns about having the event on Halloween and not having the dance on the same date, Dan stated they have gotten a lot of such back from parents about this and he has been trying to find time to speak with the PTO about this. Chelley explained the reason this was scheduled this way was due to the two week fall break starting on technically Oct. 10th (parent, teacher conferences Oct. 10th and 11th) and the break not ending until Oct. 25th with kids returning Oct. 28th. So it would be either very early or after Halloween. BoD is not going to tell PTO when to have their event. PTO fundraiser in Nov, will not be spirit cups as the company is no longer in business. They are working on a solution. Chelley asked about the storage situation at the new school. Chris stated that we are looking into a Conex or other storage building and will let them know.

8. **Board Dashboard (Principals Report) - 7:49p.m.** Dan is presenting in Lieu of Scott. They are still working on streamlining the report for everything the BoD wanted. They spent most of the summer converting everything to GPA. There are a lot of new families and teachers since we have experienced growth every week. Marsha will go over the numbers later. We are going into the classrooms and looking to see what it looks like without Imagine. They are trying to have two staff meeting a month until the move to stay in communication with the staff. Admin team has been really smooth with Serena, they have had a lot of time to move thru classrooms and the building which has been really positive start to the year. Marsh - were holding steady at 755 since the start of school, we have gained a couple, lost a couple, but still at 755. I have added some columns to my trend to better track the changes. We have 74% retention from last year. We did a comparison for our demographics, showing Aug this year versus Aug last year showing our status. Reasons were also mentioned on the report for withdrawals, 45% no reason given which is really high but no other info given. Maybe we can look into adding where a reason has to be given so we can have more information. 39% have moved out of state, country, area not in a neighborhood school. Dan, stated that demographics has increased and the state has added requirements for teachers to renew their licenses they have to have cultural training in order to renew their license. Admin is still looking to add an athletics director, librarian, interventionist and other positions to keep expanding and growing. moving down through the report gets into the dibels scores the largest lower scores comes from the new students such as kindergarten, first and second grades. The biggest percentage of lower scores appears to be from the newer students. Admin has engaged with the district with training for middle school teachers working on interventions through the year. Serena is working with that



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and supporting writing and math interventions. They felt there wasn't enough support for teachers or students. Dan is going to keep working on this and present to the entire BoD at a later date.

9. **Treasurer/Business Managers Report on Trend - 7:06p.m. Jen Reishus, trend thru June is completed, but auditors came 3 weeks early and she is working on July trends and wants audit done before she does the budget. Audit should be done before next months meeting and then a supplemental budget after that. The End of the Fiscal Year we were over by \$53,706 this is better than predicted and with the new numbers we should be fine. Legal fees should decline. The \$100,000.00 security deposit to School House Finance was not recorded an an expense, it's just sitting on the books as an asset as we plan on getting that back or at least a part of it when we return the building to them at the end of October.**

10. Discussion Items

- a. **Preschool Occupancy Agreement - 7:10p.m. Chris Dempsey, 10 (A&B) are tied together. Eric Hall the lawyers and his team got those over to the Board. Any Questions? No Questions were asked.**
- b. **Preschool Operating Agreement**
- c. **Facility Utilization - 7:11p.m. Mike will talk on this, One group looking at subletting the facility is New Life Church. Chris and Mike will meet with them at the new building and discuss this further, they were offering \$5000.00 they want the cafeteria, six class rooms, the Gym, basically the entire school for \$5000.00/day. We figured this was there first and low ball offer and we will come back higher and hopefully settle in the the middle. New Life really wants to be in there and we are trying to make our building/school as much a part of the community as possible. This goes into that utilization piece, as we have new organizations coming in were trying to bring in sports as part of our schools mission to create well rounded kids coming out of here. going into the future we just need to have a plan how were going to prioritize that and not contradict that or are always inline with that and priority as far as School, whoever else, PTO, clubs, what rank will be. Right now Chelsea keeps a pretty detailed calendar as a management software so we may need to look at something else in the future. Brandon, states that google calendar is really good for that. There are other management tools that could be used as well. There is a form that can go directly to Chelsea to manage that.**
- d. **Cowpoke Facility - 7:15p.m. New facility should be ours 9/17. Scott is meeting with city and architects to work on crosswalks at the new facility to get better crosswalks and locations. We have two right now. They cost a lot of money to get**



them. If you have a specific request get it to Scott and he can bring it up at that meeting, its not a cheap or easy process. building training is being scheduled to learn the new building how to turn off, turn on, cut off's located. Also there will be Queuing training for Scott and Dan to go to a school that uses a similar pickup. We may need to look at having more staff and trained help from the beginning to put an emphasis on the safety for the rest of the year.

- e. Sub-Committees - 7:21p.m. Mike with help from Stephen to lead a subcommittee for clubs, organizations so everyone is on a level playing field. First thing the subcommittee for the clubs and I'll use that term loosely, wether a parent wants to start a lego club or a teacher wants to run an after school music club, we are looking to level that playing field. Mike will lead that along with Stephen were going to work with Dan, Marsha, a member of the PTO and I would like a parent member. I don't know how to source that active body, I was going to ask the PTO, but Gabe Cardenas if you're still on the SAC. Gabe is still the chair of the SAC. He will be attending the budget meeting and the first meeting. Mike, wants them to reach out to their groups to find a person to fill that spot. We are trying to have this done by Jan. so maybe one to two hours a month, it shouldn't be a big time commitment. We'll get together combine everything and make into a policy and present to the board. **Brandon** - We actually have a marketing committee and we got seven folks, Amanda Ralston, Lucy Nelson, Suzanne Pence, Julie Dalton, Christina Young, Chelsea and Valerie and I'm missing one other person. We had our first meeting last week and we began planning out the entire calendar for what we're going to be doing for the entire year. We are really trying to make it so it's a living breathing document that can be edited every quarter, regardless if people leave the committee, someone else can just grab the document and pick right up. We will meet again somewhere after September 6th. We will finalize some things, I really need to talk to Valerie about the budget, when we get to marketing I will share some items if we have the budget. Once everyone is trained up then they can take over and Brandon will be able to step back. Cub Scouts will be putting on a bike rodeo at the new building sometime in Sept. before the weather turns cold.

- f. Uniforms - 7:32p.m. At Admin discretion if spirit wear can be worn all day everyday. The policy has at admins discretion. Mike is concerned that we maintain our dress code and not become another school in the area. If we allow the t-shirts everyday then I believe that we're getting away from the dress code. Dan thinks its best practice to get community, parent and staff buy-in before moving forward. Maybe send out a survey before moving forward. Brandon - currently we don't have kids talking about have a better brand of polo because all polos look the same. if you move to spirit wear all the time then you start to change the culture of the school and kids don't start to judge one over the other. Brandon is afraid that we would start to have a class system. Marcia states that a big draw for parents is having the dress code.

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- g. Marketing - 7:40p.m. Brandon - on the dashboard you will see I added four documents, the GPA Facebook ad shows where we spent money and our reach. We did four advertisements, we had a 10,099 person reach with 27,000 impressions, we spent \$328.00 and had 192 clicks that were unique. We had 140 landing pages views and 204 link clicks that connected to events we were having. When Liberty Tree missed their opening date we did a targeted push saying hey we have a few openings and we had 17,000 impressions and we spent \$200.00 on that. We had 131 people click between the link and the enrollment page. I don't know what that translates to though. Brandon would like to move to Facebook ads but I need to get with Valerie to see what the budget looks like, also we talked in our marketing meeting about doing staff videos and roll those out through FB and youtube. There are three flyers from the Colorado Springs Independent some of their subsidiaries, one is the education guide that comes out spring 2019 that hits 36,000 independent readers around college age and 63,000 that have school aged children at home. It's like \$300.00 for a quarter page to be in the education guide. There is a D-49 newsletter every quarter, the next one will be Oct. 11 publication its \$225.00 every time it runs so around \$1000.00 per year. Then there is a family newsletter the Colorado Springs Military newspaper group. I think this one is expensive. Chris - They all make sense for us. These are things we just need to pass to Valerie to say hey we have some deadlines coming up. The end of Sept. is the next deadline. Ribbon Cutting will be FB ads and target the community. Ribbon cutting we have 3 possible dates Sept 26th Thursday, Oct 4th Friday or Oct 11th Friday. Sept 26th will be Parents, staff, families sneak peak 5-7p.m. Oct. 25th 4:30p.m. will be a second event for the ones who do not get to make it to the Sept 26th date.

11. Action Items

- a. Preschool Occupancy Agreement - 7:57p.m. Motion by Mike Phillipich, Seconded by Brandon, any discussion, hearing none a vote. All board members voting (I) motion passes 5-0
- b. Preschool Operating Agreement - 7:58p.m. Motion by Mike Phillipich, Seconded by Brandon, any discussion, hearing none a vote. All board members voting (I) motion passes 5-0

12. Board Member Communication - Chris I have two items one being the audit, we should have that next month from Valerie. Valerie will also give us the supplemental budget as well. Next, forms Brandon there are three to talk to you about. Grievance, we talked to Dan and Scott and I sent you a text basically an online grievance form so they have to go online and submit it wherever it wants to be kept, it goes directly to Scott and Dan and then basically follows our laid out Grievance policy, they



either get satisfaction or not and if not then it comes to us. It should be Staff, Student/Parent, and community. It can be on the app under forms. Marcia talked about a dis-enrollment form and the last one building use form that Chelsea can use, it will go directly to Scott and Dan.

13. Other Business - 8:04p.m. no other business

14. Adjournment - 8:04p.m.

15. Informal Board Self-Assessment (After Meeting Five (5) Minutes)