Asbury Elementary School PTSO Minutes

***September 1, 2020 | 6:00 p.m.* | *Meeting called to order by Kim Nyhus & Kristi Leech***

# In Attendance

John Bradley, Celia Romero, Desi Kennedy, Leah Borsheim, Shannon Durling, Meaghan McCabe, Graham Eno, Jenny Eno, Katie Bolin, Nicole Bruyere, Amy Fitzgerald, Kelli Ward, Maren Willins, Krystal Joscelyne, Alicia FaJohn, Rhonda White-Mitchell, Sarah Lintzenich, Celia Romero, Tricia Lum, Katie Bolin, Abbey Byrne, Olivia Jolly, Emily Wlos, Courtney Cauthon, Addie Howard, Elina Kalomiris, Dave Mc Daniel, Sarah McDaniel, Sarah Brunnschweiler, Amy Ravel, Ana Petersen, Angela Malara, Andrea Cocking, Matthew, Sarah Johnson, Aaron Johnson, Elizabeth Neufeld, Kelly Bryant, Kristi Leech, Listy Lehman, Kim Nyhus, Sara Weneck, Tyler Hartung, Katie Hartung, Stephanie Vieau, Jeanne Malone, Nicole Johnsen, Crystal Cervantez-Tkac

# Principal’s Report

Principal Alicia FaJohn reported:

* A big Asbury welcome to new staff members
* The Collaborative School Committee (C.S.C.) welcomes all to attend their meetings (First Tuesday of the month at 5 pm).
* Ongoing and intensive work in
  + Exploring rigor in project based learning
  + Giving and receiving descriptive feedback
  + Robust social and emotional programming: Eagle Cohorts and A.S.E.G.
  + A deep focus on excellence and equity, anti-racism, and gender identity
* Student count day is September 17th
* The budget may take a large hit as a result of the pandemic. Advocacy continues in hopes against this.
* Thank you and a big hug to the entire community for your continued support!

# Teacher’s Report

Teacher’s Nicole Bruyere, Nicole Johnsen, Amy Ravel, Addie Howard, Desi Kennedy, Angela Malara and Sara Brunnschweiler introduced themselves and shared how they are trying their best to make online learning fun and engaging while meeting mandates. All teachers shared a message of great gratitude for the support, understanding, and feedback from our amazing Asbury Community. Technology teacher Amy Ravel continues to encourage families needing help to email her at [AMY\_RAVEL@dpsk12.org](mailto:AMY_RAVEL@dpsk12.org). We also had the pleasure of meeting our new kindergarten teacher Angela Malara; welcome to Asbury Angela! We’re so glad you’re here.

# Committee Updates

Co- Presidents Kristi Leech and Kim Nyhus shared lots of appreciation for all the volunteers reaching out to help Asbury; we have filled many new committee chairs and the website will be updated soon to reflect that - thank you all for your willingness to help! We are still looking for new chairs for Spring Wing, and co-chairs for Direct Give, Spring Wing Auction, Teacher Appreciation.

Dine out has an exciting line up starting with Thursday September 10th at Papa John’s and Bird Call on September 22nd. Please watch your Thursday folder deets for more delicious information.

Fun Run is in full swing and will feature a Step Up for Asbury theme. Students will receive a pedometer and be encouraged to get as many steps as possible in the week leading up to the run. If you would like to help or host a social distance friendly stop please contact co-chair Leah Borsheim – leah.borsheim@gmail.com. We hope to see you at this community building event on Saturday September 26.

The PTSO welcomes Katie Bolin to the new position of Special Education Liaison.

The backpack program co-chairs Courtney Cauthon, Amy Fitzgerald and John Bradley explained that the backpack program will be providing boxes of food and household goods to any family needing assistance. Please reach out to Cauthon.Courtney@gmail.com if you or someone you know is in need of assistance. This very important program needs volunteers for Thursday evenings and Friday mornings as well as monetary donations.

Direct Give is tentatively set for late Fall. With great hope, Spring Wing has been set for May 1st.

# Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Celia Romero shared the latest budget; this budget has been built to reflect realistic outcomes due to the current economic and pandemic conditions but the board hopes to exceed expectations. The vote on the budget will take place in October.

Currently most income is from community giving and the no brainer fundraisers; if you have not already signed up for some of these passive fundraisers for Asbury, please do! They are an important part of the income.

Principal FaJohn shared how the funds help the school pay for teachers, para professionals and office expenses.

# DPS Board Updates

Co-President Kristi Leech gave an update on her continued Asbury advocacy with the DPS school board. She is preparing a letter about the back to school experience and all are welcome to sign it. If you are interested in advocacy please reach out to Kristi at Kristi Leech – asbury.ptso@gmail.com.

# Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 6th at 6:00 pm. We hope you can join us!