

January 7, 2020 | 6:00 p.m. | Meeting called to order by Ann Garner

In Attendance

Ann Garner, Addie Howard, Leah Borsheim, Constance Walker, David McDaniel, Sarah McDaniel, Celia Romero, Krystal Joscelyne, Maren Willins, Kim Nyhus, Andrea Beatty, Kristi Leech, Erin Anglin, Sarah Johnson, Sara Weneck, Stephanie Vieau, Alicia FaJohn, Shannon Durling, Jennifer Carreiro.

Principal's Report

Principal Alicia FaJohn reported:

- We are right on the edge of budget season. As an update, the projection for next year has gone up from 333 to 337. Alicia is somewhat sceptical of this number, but has accepted it. She is planning on building the budget conservatively, earmarking that extra money, and in August once we find out if we are getting those four additional students and what our actual enrollment is she can use that money or hang on to it.
- We are seeing an uptick in English-as-second-language speakers. We had 13 last year, have 20 this year, and are anticipating 19 or 20 next year. This is expanding out to many different languages (we are seeing lots of African languages). This is great as we focus on diversity at Asbury.
- The district funds up to 10% of our total population in GT funds - that would be 30 students. Susan Eberspacher is great at identifying our GT students.
- In terms of Special Education, we have two programs: our mild/moderate program and our MI program. Our mild/moderate funding is based on student numbers, our MI funding is not. We are looking at maintaining what we currently have: we have about 19 students and anticipate having more identified. We will go back to the district for an additional .5 position if we get those additional numbers identified.
- There will be a special edition CSC meeting on January 24th from 7:30am to 8:30am to discuss the budget. Alicia will receive the budget next Friday the 17th, work to build some scenarios, meet with staff, then meet with the CSC. The budget is due back to the district the afternoon of January 24th. She would love to have lots of voices at the table - all are welcome to attend the CSC meeting.
- She is hoping to move forward with the existing staff minus the positions funded by the Early Literacy Grant which is ending this year. We are able to do this in large part thanks to the Direct Give campaign. Additional money can be rolled in for example when teachers do not take sick days or we do not buy curriculum.
- The cost of teachers has gone from \$77,000 on average to \$88,000 on average. That number has gone up \$11,000, but what we receive per pupil has only gone up from \$4800 to \$5200.
- Alicia only has a week to build, talk about and solidify a budget of over \$2 million.
- It is about where Alicia is allocating the money and what we value most. Hopefully what we value is working in the school.
- The budget shows how much PTSO is committing, how much grant writing will go into play, and the funding that comes from the district.
- We are getting new plumbing in the building this summer, as well as air conditioning sometime in the next year (we are on the short list). Someone from the district is also going to come to the school to look at the option of extending the building off the library to add a cafeteria.

DPS Board Updates

- Kristi Leech reported that as a result of the School Board elections new people with new ideas were voted in. They are always looking for community feedback. Kristi has a direct line to Scott Baldermann and Tay Anderson so she is

happy to be our liaison. One of their goals is to get more community involvement. She would love to hear from us and pass along feedback to the Board members. Please email her at kristileech@gmail.com.

- She will share with us information from the Board meetings that affect SE Denver.
- Kristi also works with Great Education Colorado and is involved with advocacy/education issues at the state level.

Teacher's Report

- Stephanie Vieau thanked the PTSO for the wonderful cookie bar and the fun bottles as well. It was a nice treat/surprise!
- Addie Howard shared information about the Kids Heart Challenge which will run from January 13th to February 12th. This is a service learning project that he did at his old school. It used to be called Jump Rope for Heart. The kick-off is next Monday, January 13th. The challenge addresses the importance of taking care of your own heart and serving others. It includes a heart model which ties in with the 5th grade unit. For as little as a \$5 donation, students will get a wristband. It is a very interactive program and it promotes a variety of messages through different "Heart Hero" characters: Sunny (Move More), Sofie (Add Color), Perrie (Be Ready), Nico (Be Kind), Knox (Avoid Vaping and Tobacco), and Crush (Help Others). 55 other DPS schools participate in this program. This will be the first time for our school to be involved in 8 years. Asbury 5th grader Noah Bradley is a Heart Survivor (he had open heart surgery in 2012) and will be recognized at our kick-off assembly on Monday as well as recognized district-wide as DPS Heart Hero. Messaging will go out through School Deets and social media. Alicia and Addie have agreed to be slimed at our assembly on February 12th! This is a great chance for our kids to raise money for an organization that helps people and for them to give back. There is the opportunity for us to use some of the money raised for PE equipment and curriculum, as well as for us to apply for grant money.

Treasurer's Report

- Leah Borsheim went over the fundraising highlights:
 - We have received a few more recurring payments from the Direct Give campaign. Our total is above \$94,000 now.
 - We are selling tickets for the DU sporting events so money is coming in from those sales.
 - Safeway cards have brought in \$374.75 and our Box Tops program has brought in \$351.90.

Committee Updates

Community Ticketing

- We still need someone to take over this committee.
- There is a Sign Up Genius to help sell DU tickets on the playground before and after school.
- We only have about 25 tickets left for the hockey game.

Read-A-Thon

Samantha Weiler weilersamantha@yahoo.com, Lizzie Mussoline lizziemussoline@gmail.com, Leah Borsheim asburyfunds@gmail.com

- There will be a meeting next week to get things started. People signed up to help at the beginning of the year through our volunteer survey, so we will be reaching out to those people.
- The Book Swap will take place March 2nd through March 4th and the Reading Week is scheduled for March 5th through March 11th.
- A volunteer Sign Up Genius will be sent out soon.
- We are figuring out the online component which will determine the volunteer help needed.

- There will be ways to donate to Read-A-Thon as a fundraiser but we will not be pushing this because of the Direct Give campaign. Some families like having this option.

School Tours

Listy Lehman listy.lehman@gmail.com

- David McDaniel mentioned that the tours have been really full. In his opinion, the more people who can lead tours the better to make for a smaller group dynamic. It would be great to have 2 to 3 families per tour guide so that it is easier to make a connection with the families.
- The tours take place on Friday mornings starting around 9am and wrapping up around 10am.
- The Kinder Jubilees will take place on January 17th and January 31st.
- Please let us know if you would like to help lead tours.

Spring Wing & Silent Auction

Kim Nyhus kimpnyhus@gmail.com, Kristi Leech kristileech@gmail.com, Alison Strom alisonstrom27@gmail.com

- We are about to start ramping up. We will be meeting next week to put initial thoughts and ideas into motion. You will start to see creative within the next few weeks.
- Kristi has already secured two donations. As a reminder, if you received gift cards for Christmas that you do not like or want, feel free to donate them to the Silent Auction!
- More information to come and we will be asking for volunteers in the next few weeks.

Dining Out

Kim Nyhus kimpnyhus@gmail.com

- We will have a Dine Out at McDonald's (Evans & Colorado) on January 23rd from 5pm to 8pm. They will be giving us 15% back on all sales and will also let us set up a tip jar.
- Our Chook Dine Out is on February 4th with a 20% giveback with mention of Asbury.
- Our Spanky's Dine Out is the same day as the DU Basketball game (February 20th) with 20% back on all sales.
- Please head to Illegal Pete's on March 12th from 5pm to 8pm. They will be donating 50% back to Asbury.
- Birdcall is scheduled for April 21st with a 20% donation with mention of Asbury.
- Kona Ice is scheduled for Field Day.

Afterschool Enrichment

Maren Willins marenlosh@gmail.com

- Most of our programs are restarting this month, and there is still room in some of them. There is usually a scholarship available from each club.
- Addie mentioned he will be starting a jump rope club, probably the week after MLK. It will likely meet before school on Mondays or Tuesdays. Students who take the bus to school are welcome to participate even if they are not able to be there on time. There will be a competition at the end of April. The club will be for students in grades 3 through 5 but Addie said he would be open to make exceptions. The competition is usually for upper elementary and middle school students.

2019-20 Fundraising Goals & Progress

- Read-A-Thon: a fundraising component will be available for those who are interested.
- Spring Wing: our fundraising goal is \$60,000.
- here will be ways to donate to Read-A-Thon as a fundraiser but we will not be pushing this because of the Direct Give campaign. Some families like having this option.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 4 at 6pm.