

## **Viola Gibson PTA Meeting Minutes-September 9, 2021**

### **New Position**

- Aimee Cardon - new co-Secretary
- Motion to approve: Sarah M.
- Second: Ashley
- **APPROVED**
- Welcome, Aimee!

### **Playground Update**

- New surface is in
- Fence coming down Sunday
- First recess Monday morning, kids will be able to play
- please keep kids off of it right now, it's very sticky and kid's shoes will sink
- Eric will be taking fence down on Sunday
- Denise requested that the fence stay up around the merry go round
- Staff wants to create a video to show students
- Eric will roll it up and leave around the equipment; school can take down when ready for kids to use it
- Eagle scout (former Gibson student) will be wrapping up the rest, removing remaining wood chips, smoothing out ground and seed
- Has some ideas to maybe put a pollinator garden, stepping stones, and potentially hopscotch
- In the meantime, there will be silt socks in place to keep the woodchips from running
- Will be put out Sunday as the fence comes out

### **Vendor Fair**

- Sunday the 19th will be Vendor Fair and also Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- There is a PTA booth; Ashley asked who will be running that, do we have masks and other spirit wear we wanted to try to sell?
- Sarah M. and Kileen have both reached out to Kara at Creative Design to see if she wants to attend or supply samples, but no info yet
- Booth - we can take shifts on manning it
  - Ashley and Julie both volunteered
- Three food trucks scheduled for block party, but nobody for vendor fair part

- Coffee truck? Potentially not, as they wanted a hefty fee just to come out (Stillwater)
- Keeping vendors down to a qty. of 20 to ensure that we can safely distance
- Currently have 19 vendors, potentially have 1 slot left open
- Kileen has reached out to New Bo for vendors
- Abigail Nieman mentioned that they have a food business and would be happy to help out (yay for district families!)
  - Will reach out to Heather tomorrow to give info

**\*\*Elections are coming up in May for most committee members and will need to backfill! If interested or know of someone who would be good in a role, please let us know\*\***

### **Gator Gallup**

- Heather and Kileen have been working on this
- Some plans for the Gallup may not fit in with mitigation strategies so we might need to alter
- Heather has put together some options for timing - could do this one grade level at a time or two grades at a time
  - Two grades would mean less need for volunteers
- Still can start with pep rally feel of announcements/raffle winners at the beginning of the day
- Preference from group is one grade level at a time - kids already together at recess and lunches
- There is a gator costume!!!! Ashley volunteered to wear it for the Gallup
  - Do we have budget to dry clean this costume? It's been in a Rubbermaid tub for the last three+ years
  - Yes, please get this cleaned before wearing it
  - Julie will be there to take photos
- Parents still allowed outside to watch as this is outside
- Heather will send schedule to Denise, along with a blurb to let teachers know what to expect
- Denise will add a note for parents to let know when the schedule will be published and asking to come at student's scheduled time
- ServPro is donating prizes, so no out of pocket for the amazon gift cards (yay!)

## HEPA Filters

- We had suggested trying to purchase these for each room at the school, were turned down by the district building and grounds coordinator.
- District ruled that this was not part of the school guidelines and small appliance restrictions
- In addition, did not feel that the units would be sufficient for classroom size
- Several parents would like to go to school board and district superintendent to see if we still have options for this
  
- Health of children and staff could take priority over these issues
- There is additional research that could be quoted demonstrating that HEPA filters are effective
  
- Open for discussion:
- Are there other PTA's that might be interested in this kind of question?
  - Need to keep in mind that our PTA is fortunate enough to be able to afford something like this
  - There are federal dollars (ESSR) that could be used for this as well for other schools
  - We could potentially pave the way and recommend that the district try to supplement in schools where PTAs cannot if there is ESSR money that could be used
  
- Motion to approve: Sarah M.
- Second: Julie
- **APPROVED**

## GUEST TIME

Chris Nelson (School Counselor) / Maggie Hartzler (Tanager)

- Last year's Gibson therapist is now full-time at Hiawatha
- Michelle Wiersig is the new full-time therapist at Gibson this year
- All the standard stuff that kids deal with is still a factor, but in addition, we've had COVID, Civil Unrest and polarization, Derecho occurring in the last year +
- Tanager has been seeing an increase in needs from kids in the community
- **\*PowerPoint Slides\***

- Could we get some marketing materials from Tanager to put on Facebook group?
  - Maggie has a marketing team who can make some great slides for us to use
  - We can also use this as a marketing pitch for the PTA meeting to see if we can drum up more attendance next month

### **Principal Update**

- Off to a great start this year
- We are keeping a close eye on COVID numbers. We have been more fortunate than many of the other schools.
- Mitigations: partial kids eating in cafeterias
  - AK, 1st, 5th grades eat in rooms and others are in cafeteria
  - Gone to individual seating rather than pods
  - Keeping grades separated at recess
  - Lots of hand-washing and sanitizing
  - Kids working in small groups is limited in time
- Continue to recommend mask wearing although at this time we cannot require it.

### **Budget**

- Budget presented as-is, less previously requested amount for roller skating, which was removed due to COVID restrictions
- Request to vote to approve now, and if there are changes that need to be made due to additional safety mitigations that PTA is able to help with, we request a second vote to amend.
  - Motion to approve: Heather
  - Second: Sarah M.
  - **APPROVED**