

Olson PTO

# Board Meeting 09/30/21

**30 SEPTEMBER 2021 / 7:00 PM / Katie Spelsberg's House**

## ATTENDEES

President: Katie Spelsberg; Angie Palmer  
Vice President: Jennifer Herdina; Sarah Holbrook  
Treasurer: Shefaali Sharma  
Social Events: Jyothi Sasidharan  
Volunteer Coordinator: Amanda Kienbaum  
District Liaison: Jeremy Schlitz; Liz Schlitz  
Secretary: Megan Mahaffey  
Teacher Rep: Brenda Blessing  
Board Members at Large:  
Amanda Espinosa  
Ranjit Mathai  
Matt Kalua  
Leah Uhlenhake

## AGENDA ITEMS

1. Call to Order 7:00pm
2. Intro Activity - Name, preferred pronouns, Olson children attendees/class and personal elementary school remembrance stories were shared
3. President's Report (Angie Palmer & Katie Spelsberg) 7:00-7:15pm
  - a. Welcome to our new & returning board members- new versus returning members were discussed. Complete membership by role is included below.

## BOARD

President: Katie Spelsberg                      Angie Palmer  
Vice President: Jennifer Herdina Sarah Holbrook  
Treasurer: Shefaali Sharma  
Fundraising: Jake Kocorowski  
Social Events: Jyothi Sasidharan    Sam Schweitzer  
Volunteer Coordinator: Amanda Kienbaum  
District Liaison: Jeremy Schlitz                      Liz Schlitz  
Secretary: Megan Mahaffey  
Teacher Rep: Brenda Blessing

Board Members at Large:

Jenny Conroy  
Danny Do  
Amanda Espinosa  
Matt Kalua  
Ranjit Mathai  
Susan Mathai  
Eric Steffen  
Leah Uhlenhake

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Club Swimmy: (vacant as won't be possible due to COVID)  
Olson Outreach: Amanda Espinosa, Jenny Conroy, Sara Bartlett, Amanda Saenz, Carrie Smith  
Book Fair: Kim Forseth, Jackie Dickson, Deborah Rubin, Katreena Strobe  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Completion: Emily Abbott, Amanda Kienbaum, Amanda Espinosa  
Otterwear Sales: Danny Do  
PTO Facebook: Sri Ujwal Kompella  
PTO Website: Ranjit Mathai  
School Supply Kits: Jenny & Tim Conroy  
Staff Appreciation: Akila Narayanan, Sveta Bartholomew, Priya Das, Leah Uhlenhake, Matt & Kaitlyn Gray, Erin Mathias, Jackie Dickson, Deborah Rubin  
Talent Show: Sara Bartlett  
Yearbook: Derek & Christine Hellenbrand  
Splash:  
Chair: Jocelyn Braun  
Auction: Matt & Kaitlyn Gray,  
Sponsorships: Jay Sebok, Matt Kalua  
Games: Jennifer Herdina  
Design: Paul Bartlett  
Kitchen: Jen Mead & Ashley Kish  
Tickets: Matt Kalua  
Other: Stephanie Beckman & Donovan Kron

- b. PTO Mission Statement - review of the mission statement was done verbally: bring families together, support teachers and staff, enrich the school day, celebrate our students, extend learning, help fellow Olson students and families.
- c. Overview of PTO and Committees -Review of the committees and board members were discussed.
- d. Board Member Documents Overview

- PTO Board member documents (Google doc) was completed.
  - Special attention was drawn to district and school goals of increasing awareness of equity issues, making PTO and other events equitable. We want all voices heard and represented.
  - Jen Herdina is happy to review any mail/ flyers prior to release to help add these sensitive lenses. VP Herdina's email is: [jherdina@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:jherdina@madison.k12.wi.us)
- e. Classroom Heroes - Room parent idea- this is something that was just getting started when lockdown/COVID protocols went into effect. As such, it is not feasible at this time. Thus, this was only briefly mentioned and left as a potential future board or committee agenda item should COVID related issues lessen.
- f. Calendar
- i. Fall Book Fair Date: 11/2-4- VIRTUAL will thus require very limited coordination as compared to the in-person event of past years.
  - ii. Otterwear (not discussed)
  - iii. Trunk or Treat Date: 10/21- will need a COVID screener beforehand as well as volunteers to review the screener as people arrive. Possibly having staggered attendance to increase connections between families.
  - iv. Splash Date: 4/16/21 (may need to be moved later so it could be outside-likely May). Theme days prior to Splash were discussed and there was general agreement to repeat this. Games or theme of Splash can be altered, board members indicated nothing has to stay the same. Dunk take ideas, Pie in the face, duck tape to wall ideas were floated. There was no definitive decision on these items, just general brainstorming.
  - v. Picture day 10/19, retake day 11/23
  - vi. In lieu of the 5K run of past years, we could formulate an "on your own" work-out calendar, over a set amount of time, with children setting goals, perhaps having an entry fee, this could also be a direct fundraiser for the PTO. This again was general brainstorming with the need to return later.
  - vii. We will maintain a listing of businesses, entities that have been contacted for fundraising in order to avoid over asking, double asking.
  - viii. The idea of another enrichment activity could be a reading reward, a further idea of a monthly focus was also surfaced.
  - ix. Book-it was discussed as a reading reward system to use over the week, former teachers indicated this was well-liked by children and not labor intensive for teachers. Specific implementation was not completed.
  - x. Cookie Exchange, Culture night don't seem possible under the current COVID situation, but this is still a goal for the year, discussion of ways to do this more virtually were briefly discussed.

- xi. The idea of a cultural parade was brought up for an outside option to increase equity and promote culture education and sensitivity.

4.

- a. October's General Meeting - October 12m 7-8 pm, board meeting 6-7pm
  - i. Vote in this year's board and budget - over zoom
  - ii. Topic?
    - Perhaps a share your culture idea- the idea of highlighting one family or more generally Olson diversity statistics were discussed as options.- Ideas on specifics: flag representation or flipgrid intro. The option of breakout rooms on the zoom to increase connectedness.
    - Student panels - middle schoolers
    - The goal of trying to get more general PTO meeting attendance through offering education options was highlighted as a goal.

5.

- a. Next Board Meeting
  - i. Before general meetings? It was agreed to continue the board meeting first, then the general meeting will follow.

6. Principal's Report (Christine Barone) 7:15-7:25pm

- a. Ms. Barone was unable to attend the following are questions that came up for her: None
- b. Ms. Barone volunteered for the dunk tank (Just kidding!)

7. Board Member Reports 7:25-7:40pm

a. Treasurer Report (Shefaali Sharma)

Fundraising is projected low on the current working budget, due to COVID related constraints. The PTO may be spending more than we will likely fundraise, possibly PTO will spend \$4000-\$6000, however, we may have additional options with fundraising, if COVID vaccinations or COVID cases, etc change. The Sponsorship team looks so promising! (Thanks Matt). Reserves are \$23,000, as well as a money market account. As such, a year with more spending with fundraising not re-couping the costs can be tolerated. There was brief discussion about whether continuation of the money market account vs transition to an investment account would be prudent. No formal decision was made on this item.

8. New Business 7:40-7:45pm- see the general brainstorming above.
9. Adjourn 8:45pm

**Next Board Meeting: Tuesday 10/12/2021, 6:00pm-7:00pm**

**Next General Meeting: Tuesday 10/12/2021,7:00pm-8:00pm**

MINUTES SUBMITTED:

SUBMISSION BY: Megan Mahaffey(she/her) 10/4/21 megmahaffey1@gmail.com