

Boylston Elementary School

PTO Membership Meeting

June 11, 2020

Attendance: Please refer to sign in sheet.

Note: This meeting was held virtually.

Agenda:

Item #1: Principal report

Mr. Thompson acknowledged that there are no solid answers about what school will look like next year due to Covid-19 pandemic. He said that Superintendent Zanghi is planning for three scenarios: a full reopening with students in the building, a hybrid schedule of students attending school in-person in shifts, and a fully remote plan. He said that school administrations are awaiting further recommendations and guidelines that to assist in developing their three plans from the Commissioner of Education and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Mr. Thompson said that administrators and teachers will work collaboratively to plan each scenario, and will look to parents for feedback. He is hopeful that the school district will have conclusive plans by late July or early August.

Mr. Thompson said that at the last School Committee meeting, Superintendent Zanghi shared a presentation about how schools will assess for, and address, potential academic regression due to the school closure. He said that one particular concern is that students who were struggling before the pandemic will now be even farther behind their peers. Superintendent Zanghi is proposing hiring tutors for the first four to six weeks of school to help remediate academic regression.

Mr. Thompson also discussed the upcoming town meeting which includes a vote for the 2020-2021 school budget. He said that there were cuts made to the proposed budget for BES, however an additional grade 5 classroom teacher is still being proposed. If the budget is not approved at the town meeting, that teaching position might be cut. He also said that the school might see additional budget cuts, even if the proposed budget passes at town meeting, because of an anticipated decrease in Chapter 7 funding.

When asked if BES would be having "Step Up Day" on the last day of school so students can meet their new teachers, Mr. Thompson said that the school will not be able to share teaching assignments or class lists on the last day of school as they have in the past. He said there are too many variables that may change over the summer including the potential of hybrid class groups or shifts in staffing. Mr. Thompson said that the school is organizing a socially-distanced parade for students and staff to celebrate the end of the year. More information will come soon.

Mr. Thompson was asked if parents can expect more frequent communication and updates from school administration over the summer. Mr. Thompson said he will put a blog post out on Friday, and that parents will be updated whenever possible.

## Item #2: Upcoming items

Marie Johnson, PTO co-treasurer, discussed the possibility of holding the PTO's yearly fall fundraiser, the magazine drive. She said that she has spoken with the organization's representative and they can do it without a kick-off assembly, and with a greater online presence. The PTO board will discuss this over the summer.

Jackie Hoffses, PTO co-chair, said that the Boylston Education Foundation is considering an outdoor fall carnival as a potential fundraising event, since their annual BINGO night was cancelled this spring. She said the PTO could partner with them to support the event if this event moves forward.

## Item #3: PTO officer elections

Elections for the 2020-2021 PTO Board took place. By a showing of hands of all attending members, the following board positions were filled:

Libby Dumais was reelected as PTO co-chair.

Marie Johnson was reelected as co-treasurer.

Kristin Milton was reelected as secretary.

Jackie Hoffses will continue her term as PTO co-chair, and Cindy Mackenzie will continue her term as co-treasurer.

Officer appointments are as of June 11, 2020.

This is the last meeting of the 2019-2020 school year. The next meeting will take place in September, 2020.

Meeting adjourned 7:15 pm.

Respectfully signed,

Kristin Milton, Secretary