**Culbreth Middle School PTSA Meeting**

**Tuesday, September 4, 2018, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

Attendees: Tiffany Allen, Catherine Neal, Maggie Hanes, Jennifer Cavender, Sarah Shapard, Teresa Spencer, Krys Sydell, Lauren Garber, Cathy Whitt, Monica Bintz (Principal), Ben Marteens, Jill Simon, Kerstin Sorenson, Maria Mercado, Anna Falk, Scott Falk, Tabitha Alexander, Amanda Warren (Asst. Principal)

Welcome and Introductions

Review and approval of minutes

* Jennifer C. moved to approve, Krys S. seconded, unanimous vote to approve June meeting minutes.

Principal update (Monica Bintz)

* Thanks to hospitality and donors for fabulous back to school breakfast!
* Great opening to school, much better car drop-off
* After lunch classes release at different times, therefore less congestion
* New schedule this year built in Advisory groups. Mon and Tues social/emotional learning (using Re-Step???), Wed academic help (child will lead conferences soon), Thursday circles (for restorative circles), Friday are for community time (projects driven by the kids). Now each student has an adult on staff who is with them their whole time. Morning announcements customized to grade level are done in Advisory group. Homework check-off and forms submitted to Advisory leader each morning. Claire Goff leading committee that’s driving roll-out.
* “No more PA” ~ nothing is being taken away. Lunch shaved from 47 to 30 minutes, morning bell 5 minutes earlier, one minute taken off of each transition time. PA was most common time for behavior times. Now that 20 min is more structured. Now 8 teachers supervising lunch (used to be 3). They will get to go outside during lunch, just now looks different.
* Picture day this Thursday.
* New assessment this year: iReady. Replaces two that were used last year.
* Culbreth website: Homework link and announcements on the home page
* Facilities: some white walls and cheerful pennants already renewed. Hoping to get all walls painted. All floors stripped and waxed, old furniture purged, carpets shampooed. Old basketball goals taken down. Portable basketball goals requested ~ PTSA working with staff to get those quickly. Storage pod requested for athletic equipment, etc. Several Lincoln Center employees housed at Culbreth during reconstruction of Lincoln. New HVAC systems needed. Need some help from a handyman.

Treasurer update (Ben Martens)

* Currently about $30k, of which 15k came in recently (supply kits, PTSA membership, …). We need much more membership money to come in, because our goal is $14k… please sign up! Throughout the year we do fun fundraising (like Spirit Nights), but try to avoid selling stuff, etc.
* New and approved budget available to see (overview on website, email Treasurer for detailed view)

Volunteers update (Jennifer Cavender)

* Have had great response. All listed on website**. Most pressing need** is Community and Fundraising Chair, who needs to get the word out about the 4 (already scheduled) Spirit Nights, etc.
* Ad hoc volunteers also needed.
* Please email [culbrethvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:culbrethvolunteers@gmail.com) to express interest.

Membership update (Maggie Hanes, Sarah Shapard)

* Sarah doing checks, database; Maggie handling PR
* WHY join and donate? Teachers’ workroom, basketball hoops, various grants for teachers, etc

Spirit wear update (Cheri Hall and Jenny Commins working together)

* Blue, pink, grey t-shirts available.
* Forms due mid-September.
* Some items will be available at Open House.

Hospitality update (Krys Sydell)

* Patti Martzloff co-chair
* Thanks for breakfast help, please provide help, food, and/or money as able
* Thursday, September 27 “Fall Ball” food for teachers

Q&A / New business

* Science Day will be more teacher-driven this year (March 2019). Ms. Caudill helping out.
* Square card for Culbreth? Would be great, Ben might be able to look into.

Next Meeting: October 2, 2018, 1-2 pm.