

## Steuart W. Weller Elementary School

### PTO All Hands Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2022, 8am

Called to order by: Jenn Shelton and Bob Shelton, President(s), 8:00 AM

Meeting Venue: Our meeting will be conducted virtually via Google Meets. Link provided.

<https://meet.google.com/krt-wrtj-mck>

**Board Members in attendance:** Jenn Shelton, Bob Shelton, Kasonya Blevins, Quan Tran, Carolina Pardo

**General Membership in attendance** count: 38

#### Open and Welcome – Jenn and Bob Shelton

- **Thank you** for joining us

#### Geese Mitigation: 5<sup>th</sup> grade representatives

- Discuss the issue with the geese on the playground and ways to mitigate the issue
  - Fundraiser – to purchase decoy and clean up the poop
    - Request direct donations
      - \$1 from students, goal is \$500 to purchase decoys and banners.
    - Update in the May meeting

#### Parenting Specialist, Rachel Bailey

- For over a decade Rachel has been partnering with parents to bring out the best in their children.
- Rachel takes more traditional strategies (yelling, eliminating or even sharing positive) and flips them to focus on what she calls “long game parenting.”
- Rachel has been featured in The Washington Post, Arlington Magazine, The Engine podcast, Mother Like a Boss, and Mastering Motherhood podcast just to name a few.
- You can check out more about Rachel at <https://rachel-bailey.com/>, on her Facebook page, Podcast, or by joining her Big Emotions Program.
- Rachel, we want to thank you for joining us this morning!
- TIPS:
  - When you speak to your kids, they sense our energy and they feel safe when we feel safe.
  - When you bring up any topic, if you think they heard or are thinking about a topic, bring it up.
    - When you bring it up, you are basically saying – I am not scared of talking about this.
  - When you bring it up, provide a brief explanation
    - You want to give them a high level overview
      - “Fill in their blanks”
      - Do you have any questions about that?

- Kids don't need the solutions, answers, or to be cheered up. They need to feel that they are not alone.
- General goal: help them feel safe by working on your own feelings. Focus on being there, not fixing anything.
- Program – 16 week program

### **Principal Update**

- Registration – please make sure you register new students.
  - Incoming Kindergarten students and new to Steuart Weller students.
  - Application process is online
- Loudoun Education Alliance for Families (LEAF)
  - Similar to a superintendent advisory board
  - One person to come from the Weller community
  - Meets monthly
  - LEAF parent liaison needed – interested reach out to Julia direct.
- Other topics
  - Next year, every grade level except 4<sup>th</sup> grade is reducing in teachers.
    - More information to come out in May.
  - School board and school administration will begin to move Principals to different schools. The idea behind this is to expand the Assistant Principal's experience.
    - We are not expecting for our Assistant Principal or Dean to move yet as they have been at Weller for about a year and a half.
- School Board has requested

### **After School Program: Jeremy Beck/PTO**

- Session TWO kicks off 4/27 and concludes 6/2
- Thank you all for your support and engagement

### **No Frills Campaign, Heidi/Karyn**

- Thank you to everyone who donated SWES has raised **\$2,329.47** toward the outdoor learning space and the renovation of the teachers' lounge
- **We will keep this going.**
- <https://wellerpto.com/index.html> - Click on the button on the homepage **"Donate to the PTO's No Frills Fundraiser"**
- Goal: \$6,000

### **Community Liaison (Annie Nichols)**

- If you are in need please reach out to Annie Nichols
  - If anyone is in need of assistance for school supplies for next year
  - If any 5<sup>th</sup> grade family needs help for Bridge to the Ridge camp – please reach out to her
- Summer Activity bags – with the help of Girl Scout Troop 70265, they are preparing bags for 25 students. They are meant to keep the student engaged mentally and physically.
  - Sign Up Genius if you are interested in donated for this:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4AAEAE29AAF9C07-summer>

### **Caring and Sharing Committee, Darla and Kate**

- Teacher appreciation week – volunteers needed
- Dates: May 2-6<sup>th</sup>
  - Day One: Breakfast
    - Anitas
    - Dunkin Donut donations
  - Day Two: Popcorn + Soda Bar
    - Popcorn
    - Need: Sodas, Iced Tea
  - Day Three: Fanmail
    - Kids writing
    - Cinco de May treats
  - Day Four: Zoe's Café luncheon
- Every day we are doing raffles – really hoping for the sign up genius
- How can they get this handed off? Send in with child, bring in, email to: caringsharingpto.com

### **Corporate Sponsorship**

- Folders
- Activities

### **Volunteers needed for now through next year**

- Fall events committee

### **Finance**

- We are proposing to re-allocate the funds for \$2K for Sharing and Caring and \$1K for the Teachers Lounge

### **Spirit Night(s) Upcoming: Welcome Rachel Adams!**

- 4/12 Crumble Cookie – YUM!!
- 4/28 Dairy Queen (Ft Evans Rd)
- Working on Texas Roadhouse + Meadows in One Loudoun
- Send suggestions to [rachel@dadams.net](mailto:rachel@dadams.net)

### **NEXT Meeting: May 20<sup>th</sup>, 8am - Virtual**

- Want to hear about something specific, send me your suggestions for the next session!
- Message me at [Jennifer.shelton@hitachivantarafederal.com](mailto:Jennifer.shelton@hitachivantarafederal.com)

### **Open Floor Q&A (parents and attendees)**

- Any additional topics not yet discussed?
- Thank you all for your time!

### **Motion to adjourn meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob Shelton**

**Meeting adjourned: 8:41 AM**