

Harper PTO Executive Board Meeting Notes Wednesday June 1, 9:15am

**LOCATION:** Harper Auditorium

**Attendance:** Kari Darmstadter, Aaron Dubnow, Laura Geiger, Marni Sheehan, Natalie Kapnick, Erin Lawler, Daniela Burnham, Jesse Schirmang, Allison Soderstorm, Allison Achter (via Zoom)

**Principal's Report - Aaron Dubnow**

- Thank you for volunteering, celebrate making it through another challenging year
- Open House was a big success - teachers and staff loved it
- 4th grade Outdoor Ed, team building, field trips hopefully back on table for next year
- 4th grade Clap Out, start of a new tradition
- Field Days coming up, followed by all-school tug o' war and popsicle party on June 6
- What to expect next year? Will wait to hear mitigation strategy, class sizes, allowing more visitors, field trips; they've tried to maintain 3 feet of distance for students so still a possibility

**President Report: Kari Darmstadter**

- Will work mainly with Google Docs and Sheets, editable and easy for transitions
- Committees will get Google link- every exec board member should communicate to their committees with intros and expectations
- Important August dates:
  - Aaron will send email to K parents for popsicle party on Friday, Aug 19, at Harper K playground; Laura Geiger/Erin Lawler will supply popsicles
  - Opening Coffee set for Monday, Aug 22, on North Field "immediately following drop-off"; Kari will send out a list of all tables that will be featured, verify committee reps who will be there, and order tables with Hospitality Committee; QR codes and CC swipe machines will be available for payment; let's add posters with Facebook and IG logos with joining links
  - Aaron still deciding Kindergarten's first-day staggered schedule, will communicate to K parents that they won't miss the coffee
- First Exec Meeting
  - scheduled for Wednesday, Aug 24; consensus was to hold this first meeting in the evening since that week is so busy
- General PTO Meeting
  - earmarked for Wednesday, September 28; Kari to book Dr. Cremascoli as speaker; reminder there are three general PTO meetings each year (Sept, Jan, May)
- Harper Hoedown - scheduled for Sunday, October 2 (Rosh Hashanah lands on the last weekend of September this year and Hoedown Committee decided 9/17 would be too soon)
  
- Holiday fund
  - continue equal staff distribution at holiday time, improve communication that end-of-year gifts are NOT included, families may choose to do their own teacher gifts at end of year;
  - consider adding for next year end-of-year gifts for front desk and other general staff ((if we have money leftover from the holiday collection))

- Parent Social - 88 tickets sold, good number for a Monday night; brought in \$4,400 but cut check to Pit & Tap for \$4,200 so officially made \$200; was intended more as a community building event, not fundraising
- Enrichment - shared teacher feedback on which were most successful activities to try to recreate next year
- iGNITE -
  - bumped to \$130 per child, same number goal for next year
  - we need better communication on where money is going; reinforce iGNITE promos with Aaron and teachers
  - find/buy iGNITE stickers for teachers to give students after iGNITE-sponsored activities
- Harper Happenings
  - add HH link to PTO website and Facebook each week
  - New HH rep Allison Achter requests submissions for first HH by Friday, Aug 12; move up social media blurb for first few newsletters
- Facebook parents group
  - Kari/Daniela to vet new families joining group this summer (check names with Carrie Diamond, confirm thru A to Z)
  - Committee chairs should post their own updates on Facebook
- Laurel Nelson taking over as village liaison for stormwater project, will provide walking maps; project completion slated for end of Nov
- Popsicle Parties - let's try doing it by grade next year instead of each class; parties will be at Harper because Thornwood will be under construction; Room Parents can do SignUpGenius

Meeting Adjourned