



**Harper PTO General Board Meeting Notes
Wednesday, September 28, 2022 9:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Harper Elementary Auditorium**

Call to order 9:01- Kari Darmstadter

Welcome - Aaron Dubnow

- Deserving Dolphin program big success- tomorrow another award day (stuffed animals to school). Focus on expectations in specific places in school (i.e., recess, bathrooms) added next week.
- Building community: recognize all people. “Behind the Scene” section being added to Harper Happenings. Spotlight on Nurse, custodians, cooks, etc.
- Chorus back- led by Mrs. Lambros
- All school Makers Day back- led by Mrs. Cummo & Mrs. Pinney
- Student Council is back (3rd & 4th grades). In process of picking reps now- led by Mrs. Incandela & Mrs. Mor
- Garden- held Yoga class
- Gaga Ball Pit- Open and a big success
- Harper Hoedown ready to go
- Parent Education series- link to be inserted into Harper Happenings

Teacher Liaison- Lyndsey Incandela

- Thanks for warm welcome back for teachers
- Working closely with enrichment chairs to build programming for the year
 - 11/4 Cynthia Lorde- All School
- Mystery readers and holiday parties back in classrooms
- Student council
 - Students submitting applications
 - Randomly picks 3-4 from each class
 - Info to be sent home once reps are chosen

PTO President- Kari Darmstadter

- Hoedown
 - Need more volunteers
 - Please pre-purchase tickets- don't have to wait in line
- Parent social at 50% capacity
- Garden- beautification projects
 - Mrs. T leading
 - PTO gave money for sculptures

Open Floor Announcements

- Yearbook cover contest
 - 4th graders
 - Submission deadline is Halloween

Speaker- Dr. Kari Cremascoli

- District 39 strategic plan (passed out literature)
 - Adapted last year
 - 4 more years to achieve
 - 5 areas of growth
 - Student Achievement & Growth
 - Supportive Community
 - Professional Community
 - Family Partnerships
 - Stewardship of Resources
- Open floor Q & A session
 - Q: Transition back into a 'normal' school schedule
 - A: Survey going out- what would make you feel more connected? More webinars and opportunities to come into the school. Expanded club options.
 - Q: IAR scores compared to the district rather than state
 - A: Results are confidential until 10/24 board meeting. After they will be public on website. State releases them on website on the 27th. Scores demonstrate school accountability and classroom development.
 - Q: Air conditioning units during hot months
 - A: Not recommended- limits air filtration. District is looking to add- starting with elementary schools as part of strategic plan over next few years.
 - Q: Social/Emotional learning prevalent- not so much Diversity/Equity/Inclusion
 - A: Folded together- SEL website- principals sending info as well
 - Q: School Safety
 - A: Intruder drills- chief of police and fire attending. Strengthening infrastructure of buildings. Webinars with school administrators and social service agencies. First lockdown drill last week- police present walking through step by step. Trying to normalize safety in different ways.
 - Q: Start a week early like NT
 - A: Township superintendent is still evaluating. Try to coordinate with NT as much as possible but 8/8 would be too early for us. Two options being presented next week- 8/16 or 8/22. Will be aligned with NT within a week.
 - Q: Co-teaching details
 - A: We are an inclusion district. Not piloted here- its throughout district. Sometimes makes more sense to have 2 teachers rather than pulling kids out. They are trained special education specialists. All students benefit from that support.

Adjournment:

- 10:00 a.m.