

## PTO PRESIDENTS COUNCIL

12/8/2020

9:30 – 11:30am

Welcome – Angela Christensen (PPC President) and Diane Leiker (PPC Staff Liaison & LPS Chief Communications Officer)

Update from Brian Ewart – Superintendent

Board meeting on Thursday 12/10/2020 at 6:30pm. Will be meeting in person and will be live streaming the meeting for anyone who wants to watch.

They will be having a conversation and deciding about returning to school in January

Community letter will go out on Friday

Elementary School will return first, then will phase in Secondary Schools (middle and high schools)

Everyone wants kids to be in school in person as soon as possible, and as much as possible (Dr. Fauci, Governor Polis, Superintendent Ewart, teachers, parents, students). The challenge to re-open school and have kids in person is when there is over 5% positivity in community transmission numbers, it is very challenging operationally with quarantines, etc. to keep schools open.

They are working very hard behind the scenes to get kids back to school in person.

Planning for on-site testing

TOPS will have a presentation at the Board of Education meeting to tell about the successes and challenges of this program.

There will be a presentation by the Financial Advisory Committee on Thursday 12/10 before the Board meeting, beginning at 5pm for a workshop. They will talk about the Budget Cuts and make recommendations of what cuts can be made and what will not be touched. Without the Mill Levy Override passing there would have been much more significant cuts, but there will still need to be some made.

1/14/2021 – at the Board Meeting they will share an initial proposal for next year's budget

1/28/2021 – they will present the revised budget for the 2020-2021 school year (we have spent lots of money on COVID related expenses)

In January the Long-Range Planning Committee will talk about Elementary Schools (Highland/Franklin combining and construction), enrollment numbers and plans to open the new school in the 2022/2023 school year.

High School Sports (Season B) for indoor winter sports are on hold. CHSAA will make a final decision by 2/1/about if/when the season can begin but it is currently delayed and on hold. They cannot think about starting indoor sports if we cannot keep schools open in person safely)

Getting schools back to in-person learning will be a community effort. We all need to do our part to spread this message. Wear a mask, keep social distance, wash your hands. Let's get COVID numbers down so we can get back to school!

Update from Carrie Warren-Gully- Board of Education Liaison

LPS now owns the "Schomp" property. This will become the CTE center for the district.

She will officially resign her position on the School Board in January 2021. Someone will fill her spot until 11/2021 and then will run in the next election. There will be 3 Board Member spots opening in 2021 to be filled.

Carrie reiterated about the Community effort to re-open schools. This will need to be a very different Holiday Season if we want kids to return to school in January.

Remember, we are not only talking about the health and safety of our students, but also of staff and teachers. Not having enough adults to safely run a school when they are caught in the quarantines is a major factor in keeping schools open.

Update from Mike Newton / LPS Director of Security and Emergency Planning

They have about 1200 cameras district-wide

They work with Littleton Police Department, Arapahoe County Sheriff's office, and South Metro Fire Rescue on plans to keep our schools safe

He was very proud that LPS made it for 12-weeks of in person learning before going remote

They have been involved in many of the COVID protocols to keep our schools safe (figuring drop offs/pick up, one-way directions, etc.)

The doors are going to be numbered (external doors around the schools) for better communication and planning purposes.

Update from Beth Best- Executive Director / LPS Foundation

Colorado Gives Day (Tuesday 12/8)

Many schools have their own websites set up for fundraising, and the Foundation does as well.

Will sent a list of donors amounts, contact information to schools so we can send Thank-you's

The Spirit Celebration will be a virtual event this year. Currently scheduled for 4/24/2021 but it may change to 4/29 as Thursday is a better virtual fundraising day than a Saturday.

Sharing Session / Discussion from the Group:

Send e-mails / send virtual “hugs” and thank-you to teachers and staff to let them know we appreciate them. This year has been very challenging.

Staff appreciation idea- create a “flip grid” – set up a link for each staff member/ students and families can contribute a 10 second video to say thank you and send a message

Create a google form (which flows into a google sheet) to send with form and Venmo link for families to contribute financially to holiday gifts for teachers and staff. They will then purchase Amazon gift cards for each staff member with funds raised. PTO will contribute to round off the dollar amount for each.

Remember to include OPTIONS in our support and appreciation efforts as they do not have a PTO.

“Adopt a senior program”