

PPC Meeting notes

Tuesday 3/9/2021

9:30am - 11:00am

**Angela Christensen- PPC President / Welcome**

Joint PTO Scholarship recipients: 9 scholarships from 6 schools

Options lunch delivered- catered box lunches- was great- thanks to all PTO's for participating

Restaurant Weeks does not look feasible right now - individual schools should continue with Restaurant Nights/ Food Trucks/ fundraisers

We will have a new school PTO joining our group in April 2021 (the new Ford Elementary School)

**Diane Leiker - PPC Staff Liaison & LPS Chief Communications Officer**

PPC is looking for a Vice President for next year. Please email if you are interested. This is a 2-year commitment. Election will be held in April.

Angela Christensen is joining the LPS Board of Education in March 2021. This will be her last meeting as PPC President. Sarah Beezley will transition to PPC President and we will vote in April to elect a new PPC Vice President. Angela will now act as the Board of Education PPC Liaison.

Thank you to Lindley McCrary for representing the Board of Education as the PPC Liaison for the past couple of months.

**Brian Ewart- Superintendent**

COVID update- 2400 employees, substitute teachers, coaches and interns - everyone has had the opportunity to get vaccinated.

Statistics update daily- as of 3/9 - 55% of all employees have had one shot. 25% are fully vaccinated (have had 2 doses).

Arapahoe County - overall vaccination rates for ALL individuals over age 16:

20.4% - at least one shot

11.5% - 2 shots

51% - vaccinated over 65 years old

70% - vaccinated over 70 years old

Graduation - LPS will have in-person graduations at the LPS stadium (outside) this year. There will be limited attendance, 2- 4 tickets per student. They will live stream with High-Def for anyone not able to attend in person. They plan to return to DU next year for indoor graduation ceremonies.

Board of Education - have been going out into the Community to talk about the East / Moody consolidation. It is an action item on this weeks' agenda for Thursday 3/11 Board Meeting. There is a lot of anxiety in the Community and they plan to have a decision by 4/1/2021.

Construction work for the Bond projects- on schedule.

Newton Middle School is a beautiful new school, very exciting and looking forward to opening the new school.

Ford Elementary School is getting ready to open as well.

Legislation - working to remove any Native American reference from schools.

Arapahoe High School is working on an exception, they have worked with the Arapahoe Nation in Wind River, WY and have respected the history and culture of the Native American Tribe. Hopefully they can continue this tradition.

CMAS testing / They did not receive a "full Federal waiver" which means they will administer CMAS testing. They will minimize testing to get back to teaching and learning as quickly as possible. Parents can opt their students out of testing if they wish. They don't believe the data will be very reliable this year, so school districts, teachers won't be held accountable for the CMAS results.

5th grade continuation - still in the works

### **Lindley McCrary - Interim Board of Education Liaison**

E-mail Board of Education if you wish for them to join your PTO meetings as needed.

Long Range Planning / ongoing conversations about Elementary Schools to be combined. Board of Education to review and make decisions about East / Moody and Peabody / Twain.

There is an on-going budget conversation.

LPS will keep Real Estate / property as they consolidate schools. We can repurpose it going forward but won't have the opportunity to acquire new land in the future.

Kathleen Ambron - Director of Elementary Education

Support Elementary Schools as there are changes within the Community.

The District has made recommendations for Early Childhood / Elementary Education

2 District preschools (district supported):

Village

North & Highland

4 site-based programs (under guidance and support):

Littleton Prep

Wilder

Moody

Hopkins

There will not be a preschool program at Hopkins next year as there won't be space in the building

They have recommended that the 2 district preschool programs be consolidated - North and Highland will move to Highland Preschool)

There will be a Board of Education decision about the consolidation of Early Childhood education for the 23/24 school year (could be 22/23) - there has been a significant decrease in young children in the district. Families are having fewer children and a lot of young families cannot afford to live in LPS boundaries with the housing costs rising.

The site-based preschools must be self-supporting. 3-5 years old. They need to be licensed for playgrounds and classroom spaces. They receive support from the district to cover items such as: payroll, custodial services, operations, HR, safety and security, hiring, licensing.

Preschool enrollment starts in January and will continue thru the fall.

The new LPS Elementary schools are designed:

- To be 4-round schools
- K-5
- Will include Ford, Franklin, East-Moody

There are additional costs to add preschools to Elementary Schools

Most of our Elementary School sites are from the 1950's / 1960's and don't have large enough lot sizes to include space to design a PK - 5 school

They hope to duplicate the design used for Ford, or modify it rather than start a new design from scratch. It will save time and money

## **Beth Best- Executive Director LPS Foundation**

Spirit Celebration - will be a virtual event on Thursday 4/29. It will be a Free Event and please join and share with your school groups that ALL are welcome to attend. Will be a 45 minute event. Registration is free.

Each PTO will donate a basket for the silent auction. Due 3/26. Should be worth min. \$50, max \$250. Beth will pick up or you can drop off at the ESC. Please provide a description of the basket / card + value of the basket. Money raised will continue to support mental health.

If you know LPS alumni - please send an email with contact information. More to come about this after the Spirit Celebration.