



KIS PTO Meeting Minutes
Wednesday October 17, 2018
9:30am

Dana Kachurchak, Mr Fender, Machel Maloney, Jen Hyps, Dawn Jaroch, Shannan Holodinski, Traci Felton, Carla Murphy, Sheryln Kucharson, Anquelique Ringness, Jen Stefancin, Jesse Corcoran, Vicki Rees, Renee Morgan, Paul Carlson, Ana Timmons, Andrea Solak, Romy Clark, Hannah Grunwald, Alicia Vilics, Pam Gordon, Liz Wright, Beth Wilson, Cathy Fender

Call to Order

Jessie Corcoran/Jen Stefancin

Meeting called to order at 9:34am. Please enjoy the treats provided by Hannah and Jen.

Welcome New Parents

Jessie Corcoran/Jen Stefancin

Jen welcomed a few new attendees to the meeting.

Approve September Meeting Minutes

Traci Felton

Shannon made motion, Ana second. Minutes were reviewed. Minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer Report

Shannan Holodinski

\$20,200 in account. We are above budget for membership which is considering membership is down at some of the other buildings. \$2,000 in membership and so far \$11,000 for run a thon. A little shy of last year and some envelopes still trickling in.

Principal's Report

Mr. Fender

Run a thon was a great day, even in the rain. Thank you PTO for all of your support.

Commented on how happy he was to see the large attendance at meetings.

Busy month. Picture day, International Peace Day, Student of Month breakfast. At the last PTO meeting we approved monies for art projects going to RBC. Still working on that piece. Also had student council speeches and voting. DARE began for 5th graders. Incorporated into PE classes this year and fits right into health peace. Officer Reardon is back from Bainbridge PD supporting the program. Timing is different this year. Instead of Spring it will be in the Fall.

Inaugural Hall of Fame Induction also took place. It was a wonderful event recognizing 5 alumni. Learned a lot and enjoyed hearing about the history and tradition.

KIS travelled to KMS musical and saw Fiddler on the Roof.

Staff is working on Schlecty work which is all about student and teacher engagement.

Infinite Campus will have grades posted Friday. No more hard copy report cards. Will be posted at 3pm and district eblast will go out.

Conferences Thursday 18th and Tuesday 23rd. Should have signed up via sign up genius. This is the third year of doing it this way and has worked well.

Student of the month is 25th.

Monster Mash is on Halloween as are class parties. Also will have assembly to kick off magazine fundraiser for KIS.

October 31st is B day but because of the busy day, Thursday will also be a B day. Eblast will go out and kids will be told.

Book Fair week of Nov 4th.

Veterans Day assembly will also take place. There will be speakers at the assembly.

Everything we do is to try to include it and bring it back into Curriculum.

November 8th at 7pm there will be ALICE training at Gardiner and open to the public. Went out in eblast from In the Know. You can also call the district office if you are interested in attending. Limited space available.

A question was raised about why kids are being included in conferences. Some teachers prefer to do this. If you want to allow that, then do but if not that is fine too.

Infinite Campus upgrade App.

Days schedule is on KIS website.

PTO Council Report

-Kenston Lingo Packet

Jessie Corcoran/Jen Stefancin

This is a district wide communication. Alphabetical listing of all the different words, lingo attached to Kenston. This is a living, breathing document. If there are things you think should be added, please reach out to Katy McGrath.

Building Reports – the Principals were present and provided an overview of the tactics they are using to engage students

a. KHS

i. What are teachers doing to make the standards meaningful for students?

1. If the lesson does not engage students, then it needs to be modified
2. There are 10 design qualities that make a lesson engaging

ii. Focus on project based learning

1. Students work collaboratively with a culminating activity
2. Teachers guide and facilitate the activity

iii. Teachers need to know students, so they can engage them

1. Students were surveyed as part of the “Who’s Who Initiative”
2. Goal is to develop special interest groups in which students can sign up for a topic and a staff member will lead the group

b. KMS

i. Surveyed students via Google forms to determine how they learn best

ii. Re-structuring of how teachers teach

1. For example, classrooms have a bulletin board in which students can place a push pin on a spectrum to indicate how engaged they were during the lesson

iii. Positioned Guidance Counselors in Cafeteria annex so they can talk with students daily

iv. Emphasis is on student relationships

1. Teachers are in the cafeteria during lunch in order to interact with students

c. KIS – no report given as Mr. Fender was unable to attend

d. TES

i. Surveyed parents to understand how they prefer to receive information

ii. Teachers are building choices into their instruction in order to determine how to deliver their lessons

iii. Flip book was developed regarding the 10 design qualities of a lesson

1. Teachers can use it to ask themselves how do I develop that design quality in my instruction

iv. As a building, TES is looking at their events: 1) are there design qualities present in the events and 2) do the events need to be tweaked so students are more engaged. Events:

1. Kindergarten: Portfolio Day

2. 1st Grade: Grandparents Day

3. 2nd Grade: Science Day

4. 3rd Grade: International Festival

v. Looking at affective side

1. Are students stressed over simple things such as homework?

2. If we see this, how do we support them and acknowledge this is happening

Mrs. Johnston gave a presentation reviewing the Integrated Technology Standards including internet safety and coding. Standards overlap with classroom teachers to work with them on classroom projects.

Design of the class, drop off books, renew, then they meet at smart board to discuss objectives of the day. Encourage the kids to become problem solvers and working together with classmates. It's not a quiet library. They are to help each other and collaborate.

They do everything in the app of Google and is housed. Google drive is the file collector. Students have unlimited storage in there and access files anywhere. Google Hangouts – video chat similar to facetime and chat which is Instant Messaging. They are not allowed to be used during class. At home kids can use it to check homework or chat with a friend. Google Calendar isn't used. Google Forms is used for voting, quizzes, survey. Google sheets is similar to Microsoft Excel. Google Photos, not used in Integrative Tech.

Google docs, kids use often. Similar to Microsoft word program. Google drawings is a creativity tool. Can create flyer, poster, etc. 4th graders recently created how to stay safe flyers. Google slides is similar to PP. As they progress at KIS learn different bells and whistles. Google classroom students can gain access to assignments, teacher organizes the classroom. Google sites, students can create a website and post to Kenston domain.

Encouraged everyone to sign up for a Google Account. It's free, web based and can be accessed everywhere, collaboration in real time. Students can't receive or send outside the Kenston domain until Middle School.

Question was asked about keyboarding and where it falls in. Younger kids is harder because of smaller hands. It's not part of the standards or curriculum. In 6th grade some kids if they chose tech they will get keyboarding. More discussion and thought will be put into this. This will be the 3rd speaker series in the PTO speaker series.

Chromebooks are 1:1 in Middle School and plan is 1:1 at HS for next year. No specific kind of Chromebook used. They are interchangeable.

In order to see all information on assignments, homework etc, parents can only see if they log in as student or have been invited by student and/or teacher.

Emails are first name.lastname.graduating year@kenstonapps.org

In PTO we are working on getting all communication, docs on Google drive.

Mr. Fender wanted to recognize Mrs. Johnston on all the work she has done to get us ahead of the curve and leading the pack.

Please reach out to Mrs. Johnston with any questions or concerns. The presentation that was reviewed will be posted to main KIS website.

Committee Chair Reports

- Run-a-thon Sherlyn Kucharson/Shannan Holodinski
 - Jesse took a moment to thank Shannan and SherylN for all of their work and effort.
 - It's a huge event, a lot of planning but enjoyed across the school.
 - Number participants trending down. 43%, Last year 52%, year before 57%. Have tried different things like mystery prizes, etc. We are about \$8,000 in student donations. \$5,000 less than last year. We extended envelop turn in date to today.
 - List of winners will be posted soon.
 - Business sponsors were great.
 - Play 60 helped to keep it top of mind.

- Book Fair Dawn Jaroch/Hannah Grunwald
 - Nov 5-9th. Theme is enchanted forest. Going to create a little scene and do a countdown to book fair to get them excited. Going to fill space with trees, gnomes, etc. Will work in room 205 if you want to assist. Work days and times will be shared. Sign up genius will be sent out for volunteers. We are also going to have a book fair night. PJs and Popcorn is the theme. Evening is a good option for those that can't make breakfast and books. Also going to have a coloring contest for kids to design and color their favorite book cover and pick winners. Will have poster raffle and pencil pull. Teachers donation area. Teachers are given scholastic dollars to help build their classroom.

- Library/Book Room Julie Voudris
 - Not in attendance. No update due to time restraints

- Breakfast and Books Beth Wilson/Cecelia Meeks
 - Opportunity for parents to come in and shop the book fair and have a healthy breakfast. Will be imperative to have a ticker to see attendance vs. pajama party. Entire budget was not used last year so extra money could possibly go to Book Fair for decorations. Will need to purchase clicker. Sign up genius will go out soon. Donations are very appreciated but volunteers needed to help them clean up. Whole grain muffins have been provided and ordered through Whole Foods. Past years was Choc Chip and Blueberry. This year Blueberry and Apple.

- Staff Appreciation Carla Murphy/Andrea Solak – Jen on behalf of Carla and Andrea
 - They did a really nice thank you to custodial workers. Made a poster board with candies attached. Turned out really nice and have received thank you notes.

- Point Program Liz Wright/Cathy Fender
 - They are coming in, there are less than in past years. The box tops are on less products. Still getting a good amount. Have around 4,000 so far.

- Monster Mash Bash Romy Clark/Lindsey Monger
 - Sign Up Genius went out. Set up at 30th and event on 31st. We are ready to roll. Everything happens on the 30th with set up. Could use a few volunteers for 30th. Encouraging everyone to bring props from home for those who signed up to decorate a "room". Also encouraged to come and act in one of the rooms if you are setting it up!

- Apparel Sales Hannah Grunwald
 - Last home game is Friday. Was originally a white out but now a pink out. Did order pink bandanas that will be available for purchase. Will be at conferences at TES and KIS this Thursday. Moving ahead for holiday season will be ordering new items. Need anything text or call – always willing to open bomber hangar. Will be open at 5, night of home game on Friday.

- Beautification Katie Flynn/Adrienne Allotta
 - Not in attendance. No update due to time restraints.

protects all of PTO and Kenston. Vote will be tabled until further discussions can happen. 300.00 is budget pays for shutting down rink for the night.

- Liz Wright was suggested running it through KCE.
- Further research has to occur. Michelle Rees will look into it and present at next meeting.
- Jen/Jesse will raise issue to council.
- Laura Calabrese wants to request increase to historian budget. But did not attend the meeting.
- Will table both votes.

Upcoming Events

- 10/18 & 10/23 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- October 19th Picture Retakes
- October 19th Report Cards posted on Infinite Campus
- October 31st Fall Parties and Monster Mash
- Book Fair week of 11/5 - 11/9
- Breakfast and Books 4th grade 11/6 7:15 a.m. and 5th grade 11/8 7:15 a.m.
- NEW! Book Fair Night! Wednesday, 11/7 6:00-8:00 p.m. Stay tuned for fun details!
- PTO Parent Engagement Series, KHS, Lee Auditorium, November 12th 7p.m.

Please join us Wednesday, November 14th for our next meeting! Will be lots of fun with raffles.

Meeting adjourned at 11:33pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Traci Felton
KIS PTO Secretary**