



CDSP General Meeting

October 14, 2021 10 a.m.

BOE Meeting Room

In attendance: Joanna Walsh, Lori Olson, Crystal Hill, Kelly Kelly, Robin Nelson, Carol Kennedy, Amy O'Kane, Julie Best, Jenn Sherman, Jess Levey, Tiffany O'Connor, Leila Buckjune, Mary Smith, Stacey Tie, Sara Parent, Monica Silverman, Caitlin Cahill, Antoinette Cowles, Lorraine Collins, Lindsay Kollar, Yesim Cil Sukhani, Catherine Piorkowski, Lisa Cerussi, Shannon Keefe, Libby Cook, Anne Cotton, Meghan Thorton, Stefanie Desai

Meeting called to order by Joanna Walsh at 10:05 a.m.

Kristen Fiordalis absent, Lori Olson taking minutes.

Vote to approve September Minutes. Motion to approve. First: Carol Kennedy. Second: Tiffany O'Connor. Passed.

Guest speaker: Kesti Ayssah, Director of the Darien Chamber of Commerce. Spoke about town-wide gift certificates. By purchasing gift cards for staff appreciation, local businesses and staff benefit. Win-win. Launching an online gift card program March 2022. Chamber gift cards can be used for any Chamber of Commerce business. Gift cards available at the Chamber or DR Bank Darien.

Co-Chair Update:

- *Inter-Org Communications*
 - Clarify what is CDSP. Mission
- *BOE update:*
 - Curriculum Committee approved. BOE Chair decides after election who is on each subcommittee.
 - Town vaccine clinic for 5-11 year olds when approved. 4 Saturdays.
 - District DEI committee looking for volunteers
- *Web audits:*
 - Take a look at school websites, PTO and district. Make sure info correct.
 - Please send wrong info to Joanna and Lori to send to district for corrections
- *Digital Citizenship:*

- Needs to update as kids get older. Not a one size fits all.
- Kindergarten vs. Freshman needs different
- PTO programming: Present to parents on how to teach our kids to use social media responsibly.
- VOTG:
 - Will be promoted through the district, administration and PTOs.
 - Vision of the Graduate starts in Kindergarten.
- *Teacher Appreciation:*
 - PTO-wide show of appreciation similar to last years #showingdpsstaffthelove

Officer Updates:

- *Special Education:* Kadi (absent/gave notes): planning a school-wide staff appreciation on Special Education Day, December 2. First annual. Working with all seven schools and sub-committee. All-inclusive.
- *Communications:* Byrne (absent): working on social media campaign highlighting who CDSP is. How CDSP works with PTOs. How PTOs work inside the schools. How CDSP and PTOs gather parent feedback and share information.
- *Treasurer:* no update per Lorraine
- *Community Outreach/DEI:*
 - YWCA partnering on Darien United, wondering if CDSP will sign on for that. Inviting Marli Hayes, Dir. of the YWCA to December meeting to answer questions from membership.
 - DEI Committee: Barrett Bookstore book club co-sponsored event. Guiding Children to make the right choices. Diversity and inclusion for all the kids. Goal: keep moving in the same direction. Listen to your kids. Ask them about something every day.
- *Special Projects/Nominating:* Looking for CDSP Budget Chairs.

School Updates:

Hindley: Hindley Cocktail Party (parent party), Silent Auction sold out, In person book fair, virtual author visits.

Holmes: Back to school luncheon, in person book fair.

Tokeneke: pumpkin carnival underway. Town-wide excitement after two years off.

Ox Ridge: Sunday Funday at Highland Farms. Book fair in person and family nights. Speaker series. Used book drive

Royle: Life's in Balance - team of teachers. DEI back to school walk-a-thon.

MMS: 6th grade social, 7th grade social, Direct Appeal started.

DHS: Staff appreciation (coffee/pastries), Op-Ed very clearly a reflection of how staff feels, BSU - student voices heard,

New Business from the Floor:

Motion to adjourn by Lori Olson at 11:30 am. First, Crystal. Second, Jenn.

Respectfully submitted by Lori Olson.