

Irish Elementary PTO Padres en Accion 10/28/21

We started at 7:05pm

People Present:

Staff: Lindsay Mozer, David Autenrieth, Ana Ordonez-Velasco, Irma Sandoval-Interpreting

Leadership Team: Lindsay Reynolds, Etta Schwartz, Hanna Hess and Jenny Miller

Parents: 13 Parents!

- I. Holiday Night: form committee and begin planning
  - A. It will be on Thursday, December 9th. In the past we have had:
    1. Dinner
      - a. Could we do Tamales?
      - b. Could Ana ask families to make items?
    2. Games
    3. Market
    4. Bake sale
    5. Fundraiser
      - a. Could we sell Sees candies?
    6. Art Auction
    7. Specials Movie
    8. Could we have the teachers tell a story?
  - B. Last year was virtual and it will probably be Virtual again
    1. If it was in person we'd have to be 3 feet apart,  $\frac{1}{3}$  full, limiting mixing, probably not in the center pod. Plus cases related to this event would restrict us.
    2. The staff liked seeing the families virtually and felt more safe.
      - a. We had about 150 logins which is about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of total participation, but whole families may be participating
      - b. There was less workload for the teachers.
    3. David Autenrieth did the tech
    4. Kids would have to check out laptops with their teacher.
  - C. We need volunteers to plan this event and get food donated. Here are the volunteers:  
Wathana, Hanna, Gus, Jenny, David, Ana, Gloria, Kelly, Laurie

II.-Principal's Update-SAC Advisory group

- A. Irish was a part of a "UIP" which is an outside group that will give Irish goals and action steps for improvement.
- B. What's involved:
  1. Diagnostic review.
  2. Audit of data and practices.
  3. They got a grant to hire 6 people to audit Irish's practices
    - a. 2 days of observation All classes including Specials and Interventions.
    - b. They Interviewed Teachers, Kids, and Parents
    - c. They looked at publicly available CMAS and teacher survey data, then they compared it for school improvement.
  4. The group will give a report, They will tell Irish what we do well, and areas of improvement.
    - a. There will be a report in the next few days, and then they will discuss with the leadership team in the next few weeks. And recommendations to UIP. Lindsey Mozer will inform us about the results in the Nov. meeting.
    - b. They were complementary about our climate, structure and support systems.

5. Irish's focus for growth is students with disabilities.

- a. Because Irish did this audit, they can apply for a ESAI (Empowering Action for School Improvement) grant.
- b. It is a large grant (maybe up to \$120,000) to be used for school improvement.
- c. So next month we will want input on how we will use the funds for students with disabilities.
- d. Laurie: Will the focus group if we get the grant include parents with students with disabilities be involved with how the monies get distributed? Answer: The parents are involved.

C. Questions about Covid at Irish

1. Etta- How a class decides to quarantine, who goes for virtual.
  - a. The health dept. And PSD wants to keep kids in school.
  - b. PSD has enhanced contact tracing.
  - c. Before they said we have to keep all students 6 feet apart. We realized it is very difficult to do that, but now there is more "wiggle room".
  - d. 3 feet w/masks, certain activities, Now if there is a positive case we need to see who was near. Were they outside? In PE? Are they good mask wearers? How close seating arrangement in class?
  - e. We fill out a "JOT" form for the country and they tell us who must go into quarantine. Rarely whole classes had to go because of activities, mask wearing, proximity. 13 cases of Covid at Irish in the past 28 days. It's about 1/day.
  - f. <http://www.psdshools.org/psd2020-21/COVID19schoolstatus>

D. District Advisory Board

1. We need volunteers to represent Irish Every school in the district as an advisory council to leadership at PSD. We need parent representation.  
<https://www.psdshools.org/community/community-committees/dab>
2. It is once a month.
3. We are so unique at PSD that it is important for our school to be represented.
4. It is in person at the Laporte building. 1st monday of the month at the JSSC 7-9pm. Hannah, Laurie and Jenny can do it.

III. Bank Account balances

A. Kristi put together a spreadsheet.

1. In the Irish account we have \$4,400.00
2. 1st Bank-\$188.00
3. \$500 for t-shirts, in cash and in Venmo
4. \$180.00 from Panera
5. \$369 from King Soopers
6. \$1880 in Paypal from the spring auction, and remaining after buying teachers lunch and snacks in May.
7. Total: \$5,306,
8. We want to have accounts both at Irish and in our own bank account.
  - a. Ms. Mozer recommended the Irish account for classroom grants and for infrastructure projects for now, b/c there are less restrictions on those.
  - b. And to use the cash/venmo/paypal accounts for teacher appreciation things.
8. Before COVID we thought about allocating in Feb. 2021 for
  - a. Supporting teachers
  - b. classrooms
  - c. field trips.

d. Infrastructure

9. We need to do visioning.

IV. Funding Request:

A. Kindergarten team- Manipulatives for math games and activities

1. For more autonomy.
2. Kids can use them on their own and groups which would be a focus in the math center. They would have links to different games.
3. Not a handout but an engaging activity and not a worksheet.
4. We hope this will promote independence and leadership. The request is \$350.00 **Approved**

B. For Funding requests for PTO funds-We want this to focus on the vision of PTO.

1. We ask if the teachers/parent's request is aligned with our mission, if there are other funding sources, to fill out the application form and come in person to the PTO meeting and request it.

Announcements:

-10-6pm Tuesday, November 16th Mobile vaccine clinic for all 3 vaccines and for the community

-Have a coffee cart for teachers: Kelley can set it up. Before the end of the year. Maybe sometime in November?

This Saturday 10/30 1-3 at Irish help clean up the garden.

Parking Lot items for future meetings

-Vote on long-term initiative: Pavillion, Tree planting, or Running track

-Form committees: • Teacher Appreciation • 2-yr project

-501 c 3 Bylaws

-Teacher appreciation committee and community

Next meeting 11/18

Our meeting ended at 8:39pm