

Merriam PTO Board Meeting

October 1, 2020

New Members of Board

- The Board approves Kate Foley replacing Shirlee Stein as Treasurer of the Merriam PTO, effective immediately.
- The Board approves Rhonda Belka who will be transitioning into the Communication role.

Spiritwear

Kelly Clayton (remote schooling this year) and Beth Chimento serving as Spiritwear contacts

The store is ready to launch via newsletter/website/facebook. Be sure to draft letter for Juliana to distribute to the teachers who are looking forward to browsing the store

Directory

- Online this year via the PowerSchool Portal. Layout needs to be planned and executed. There will be no ads. Merriam students learning remotely this year will be included. The administration will print directory for those who need printed copies. Complete understanding that the layout is a first-time, flexible effort with improvements to be implemented over the coming years

Room Parents

Looking good - very few spaces left to fill.

Discussion of possible virtual potlucks to replace the usual in-person versions

Possible events- online Camp Fair, Fun Run?

PTO was to provide teacher breakfast early in the school year but payment did not happen. PTO will provide Professional Development day luncheon for the teachers instead.

OPEN PTO meeting to be commuted due to intensity of open houses (Merriam/RJ Grey/ABRHS) during the second half of October. Do not want to contribute to communication fatigue, also not a great deal to communicate at the moment. Plan for a small scale meeting to take names, maintain contact, maintain interest, conduct open discussion, raise awareness of positions coming open.

Open House October 15th - Typical Format translated online - Curriculum overview by individual grade levels, with attempted staggering so that parents can attend more than one grade level info session.

Bylaws

The survey was drafted last year, but derailed by COVID.

Time to reconvene the committee

Acknowledgement that the assistant funding situation is almost certainly going to be different going forward, and a renewed, community-wide discussion of where PTO fundraising and spending should focus will be necessary

Reaching out to other schools seeking info on how they/we spend the \$\$ we have. Who decides how we spend. Do we need to fundraise less in the future. Fundraising details not to be enshrined in the bylaws as there needs to be more flexibility. Suggestio to proceed with renewal of bylaws now - then to seek community input re funds and events etc in the Spring