

Minutes of the Meeting

Type of Meeting: SALT BROOK PTA Meeting
Date: September 29th, 2021
Time: 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM
In Attendance: Mrs. Drexinger, Mr. Firetto, Mrs. Julie Spoerl
(Technology Specialist), Officer Dan, Lynn Kral
PTA board members and parents of Salt Brook
School.

1. **Call to order and flag salute**
2. **Approval of Minutes- May 2021 Meeting:** Approved without any objections or corrections.
3. **Principals Report:** Principal report is attached below.
4. **Teachers Representative:** (Mrs. Julie Spoerl) Information on resources on the website.
 - a. Newly implemented *JAMF parent*. JAMF is the software that is used to manage iPads at the back end by pushing out apps and restrictions. Parents can download the app from any device and follow the directions as per Mrs. Drexinger's email. They can add restrictive settings to manage iPads outside the school hours. The directions are also on the school website under teachers -> Mrs. Spoerl-> Parents digital empowerment.
 - b. There is a link to 'Common Sense Media' on Mrs. Spoerl's page. It's a great resource for parents to look up an app for your child to use and you are not sure if it's appropriate. You can look up a website, movies or books and it gives you a recommended age range. The school uses Common Sense media for Digital citizenship lessons.
 - c. A little over a year ago, Mrs Spoerl and Officer Dan, prepared a slide for parents. The presentation is about controls – Life 360, MS Controls, Verizon control, and all kinds of 3rd party software to track and place restrictions on students personal device at home.
 - d. Introducing Mr. Zipeto, he is new tech specialist. He has been on the teaching staff for well over 10 years for special education.
 - e. Tip: Once homework is done, school iPad should go away. Students should put it in their backpack, sit the backpack next to a charger/outlet and plug the iPad in. In the morning unplug the charger, zip the backpack and go. Takes care of situations when kids have forgotten their iPads or forgot to charge.
5. **Mr. Firetto's Report:** Read and explained the Anti Bullying rights.
6. **Offer Dan Report:** Discussing Traffic Tips
 - a. An email was sent out earlier the year.
 - b. Pulling across or stopping for a second disrupts traffic for school traffic and commuters. Police departments are called in to act in these situations and might also have to write tickets, to avoid this situation please spread the word and follow the traffic rules and

patterns near the school.

7. Presidents message / Announcements

a) Presidents Message: *(Diana Ettinger)*

- i) Submit your Covid vaccination form, the link is on the website on the homepage. Its also been sent to class parent and committee chairs.*
- ii) Approval on Audit, Generic By-laws getting passes without objections.*
- iii) We are collecting Class dues and PTA memberships on Membership Toolkit. This will also be shared with room parents to help then follow up with individual parents.*
- iv) PTA is sponsoring a chess club for grades 2-6. They meet twice and will start in fall. They will have a chess coach to train and review. Also will have chess matches with local leagues. The class will be capped at 20 students.*

b) Treasurer Report: *(Ana Roth) Report for August 2021.*

- (i) Amazon Smile: Received \$105.*
- (ii) Sold another year book for \$23*
- (iii) Paid \$450 towards Membership toolkit, for annual subscription*
- (iv) Spent \$367 on Celebration books*
- (v) Paid \$350 for New Jersey Commission on Holocaust to our 6th grade residency*
- (vi) Paid \$280 for balloons for first day of school*
- (vii) Paid \$175 for open house prizes*
- (viii) Paid \$33 related to celebration books from 2 years ago, which was on back order*
- (ix) No activity in the 6th grade account for August*

c) Correspondence Report: *(Urmi Mukerjee) Read out correspondence relating to PTA gifts from end of last year.*

d) Family Fun Night: *(Korin Markel)*

- (i) Got help from the NP police Department, Torbilt Construction and Terra landscaping in town to bring the lights for family fun night.*
- (ii) Shout out to Mr Cruz and Officer Dano for being in the dunk tank and committee members and volunteers for helping out with the vent.*
- (iii) Need a committee chair.*

e) Movie Night:

- (i) Same night as Halloween night.*
- (ii) Everyone can sit on the field with the picnic blanket and movie is projected, with popcorns! We will be filming "Adams Family"*
- (iii) There would be a charge for movie night this year and also for popcorns.*
- (iv) Need volunteers for movie night.*

f) 6th Grade events: (Kathy Walsh)

- (i) Pasta feast: A night where 6th graders serve guests - pasta, salad and breadsticks. Some restrictions might be in place due to Covid.*
- (ii) Halloween Hunt: It will be on Oct 29th, outside AWR. The time maybe moved up between 6-7:30.*
- (iii) Pins was cancelled due to weather and quarantine conditions.*

g) Fundraising:

- i) Amazon Smiles: Put the school code and part of the proceeds go to PTA*
- ii) Box Tops: Scanning version of the Box Tops are available and information is on website*
- iii) Martial Arts for Life: They run a special and proceeds go to PTA.*
- iv) Club Z: A part of the proceeds from registration comes to PTA*
- v) Treat Sales: This week!*

PTA MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29, 2021

- I. GREAT OPENING!** Thanks to all: staff, students, and parents for preparing for the new year!
- II. COVID Cases** Due to confidentiality, can not share specifics. Parental notifications depend on the details of each case and the contact tracing.

Things for parents to remember:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- • Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds;
- • Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- • Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;
- • Practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);
- • Wearing a face covering; and
- **If you are waiting for COVID test results, please remain at home and monitor your health.**

SCHOOL-BASED /PTA VOLUNTEERS - Must be vaccinated. School vaccination form will best out on an as needed basis.

III. PROCEDURAL REMINDERS -

- Attendance:
 - Complete Attendance matters, reporting Absence Form on SB webpage. Complete detailed reason for absence, indicate covid-like symptoms if appropriate
- 8:10 – 8:40 ARRIVAL. Teachers on duty beginning at 8:15 a.m.
- Weather notification signs
 - Red sign, STOP - line-up on the playgrounds
 - Green sign, GO - Come into the building and line-up outside the homeroom
- No dogs on school grounds, unless it's a service dog.
- Parents please keep an eye on small children at dismissal time while waiting for students to be released, especially this year. Playground equipment can not be used.
- No parking at any time along the front circle. It is a fire zone.
- Arrival/Dismissal procedures – Dismissal procedures outlined by classroom teachers.

- Please follow parking procedures outlined with placement letters. No parent parking behind school or back by the maintenance facility is permitted.
- No idling of vehicles

IV. CURRICULUM / CLASSROOM / ASSESSMENTS UPDATE

- All teachers using Google Classroom
- Common Templates “Daily Plans” and “Week at a Glance” posted in google classrooms to assist
- iReady and TC Assessments almost finalized in all classes.
- NJ State Start Strong Assessment - Grades 4 - 6, Oct. 4th - 6th
 - Take the place of NJSLA, originally scheduled for Spring 2021
 - Assessed in Language Arts and Math, Grs 4 - 6
 - Assessed in Science, Grs. 6
 - Time Limits - 60 minutes per subject

V. TECH TIP - Ms. Spoerl

VI. CHARACTER EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS / HIB LEGISLATION

- Review of HIB Legislation
- Essential Core Lessons
 - Building Relationships
 - Bullying vs. Normal Conflict
 - Recognizing the Roles People Play
 - Upstander Strategies
 - Responsible Reporting
 - Assessment and Action
- 2021 - 2022 District-wide Character Education theme.....coming soon!
- District-wide activities
- Week of Respect / Red Ribbon / Anti Violence Awareness Week – recognized during the month of October) - please refer to our website and information that was emailed home for dress up days and Halloween costume Donation Collection

VII. DISTRICT-SPONSORED AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS - Will run in person this year beginning at 3:00 p.m. Sign-ups will begin in October. Clubs include:

- STEM Clubs Grades 1 - 6
- Art Club
- World Language Club
- Broadcasters Club
- SWAG - Students with Attitudes of Greatness, Character Education
- SWAT - Students Willing & Able to Assist with Technology

VIII. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS - Officer Dano

- School Drills
 - One fire drill per month.
 - One emergency drill per month.
 - Phone Notification System in place for this year and ready to go when needed
- Traffic

IX. UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Week of Respect
- Anti-Violence Awareness Week
- Halloween Celebrations - October 29th

X. THANK PTA AND PARENTS FOR SUPPORT!

- Special thanks to everyone for helping to make the start of this school year a success!
- If you would like to get more involved, Substitutes and playground aides Needed - applications found on the district website.

Open Forum

Question: If you know your child has seasonal allergies should we proactively be getting a doctors note to send in to the school?

Answer by Mrs. Drexinger: Yes it certainly helps to know medical professionals have assessed them.

Question: With the school vaccination forms do we need to fill this out everytime someone volunteers and comes in to school or just once is fine? Should they wait to do this before they coming in or can they do it now?

Answer by Mrs. Drexinger: Just once is fine. School keeps a running list so when someone comes to volunteer we quick check the list and make sure their names on it.

They can do this as soon as they want. If they want to volunteer later in the year but want to update their vaccination details even now, that's totally fine.

Question: While waiting for the Covid test results, are the kids marked absent?

Answer by Mrs. Drexinger: Depending on the situation, if you are out under quarantine since you were identified as a close contact then your child will be marked as "Covid support", marked as present for the day. If the child is home because they have cold, and you waiting for a test result then they will be marked as absent. Also since this is Elementary school a few days out does not affect their grades or academics.

Question: For those who are travelling, what does quarantine look like?

Answer by Mrs. Drexinger: As of now, if it's domestic travel there is no quarantine for unvaccinated individuals, including children.

If you are travelling internationally, it is a 14-day quarantine. If the region gets lowered to lower-moderate risk, then it changes and between day 3-5 you can get a Covid test and if the test is negative and you are asymptomatic then you can come in on day 8th.

District website has all the current Covid details and flow charts under 'road forward'. The district does not give academic support for international travels.

Question: Do the parents receive the 'NJ Start Strong Assessment' test results or do they stay with the school?

Answer by Mr. Firetto: The parents will have access to the results.

Question: Are we still doing the Math Olympiad this year?

Answer by Diana: We are not doing it this year. We might start again next year.

Question: A lot of cars are parking on the right after exiting the school, blocking off the exit. While officer Dan is busy with the entrance of the exit could there be a way to mind the other side?

Answer by Diana: Monday some officers were sent out to let parents know about parking rules. Its up to the parents to mind the rules, but I can go and look into the situation on that side.