

Carlos Gilbert PTK

Meeting Minutes March 4, 2021 4:00 pm

Attendees: Kathy Primm, Sarah LeBlanc, Jana Amacher, Michaelann Perea, Alison Walcott, Sara April, Kim Pietrocci, Rebecca McDonald, Erica Gomez, Frances Carreon, and Kate McCarthy

1. The PTK took a few moments to make a video with the goal of lifting spirits through expressions of gratitude, pride, and appreciation of each and every student within the CGE school community. The third quarter is done. Only one more to go. Keep your eyes and ears open because this public service announcement is coming to a Chromebook near you!
2. School News
 - Ms. Pietrocci addressed the press release from the day. Santa Fe Public Schools and the National Education Association are in agreement, through a Memorandum of Understanding, that teachers and staff will be required to return to work in-person once vaccinated or have had the chance to be vaccinated. It's not a requirement to be vaccinated, what is required is to return to in-person education as soon as possible. Those who have an exemption from human resources may continue to work remotely. Everyone else is expected to return to campus.
 - Parents and guardians are being asked to choose if their student(s) will participate in standardized testing for grades three and up. They may opt in, and more information will become available regarding the logistics of testing. Ms. Pietrocci mentioned so much is still being ironed out to ensure everyone is Covid safe. Members of the PTK asked what the benefit was to opt in for testing and what value was it to the school. Ms. Pietrocci explained this option, to test or not, is new and really offers no valuable data points to the schools, teachers, or even the students because the data is already so skewed for a few reasons. Without ensuring everyone is tested and tested on the same test it is impossible to really make a valuable comparison and understand how to address the high and low points. She mentioned last year the State waived the requirement for this test (PARCC) and this year it is a different test (i.e. different questions). Without complete participation and consistent participation with a consistent measurement, the results do not offer valuable information for the schools.
 - Big thank you's to Ms. Frances and Ms. Kate for all the fun events with Read Across America. Ms. Frances commented that so far, all is going well, and it has been fun seeing the kids dress up as their favorite characters. Lots of positive feedback from the Kindergartners were paired with older readers. She still seeks volunteers for Mystery readers for the second-grade group. Ms. Kate volunteered to be one and both Ms. Pietrocci and Mr. John may be invited to participate too. Mr. Winterstein's class was so excited. It was heartwarming to see the students rise to the challenge and how well their hard work was received.

- Book log contests (think March Madness) will be outlined in an upcoming e-blast. It is a school wide voluntary program and will launch right after spring break. Kate will send out more information for daily activities and an estimate for ordering prizes.
3. Yearbook
 - Final call for photos is this week! March 7th and not a day later. Bernadette and Kathy seek an extra item from the 6th graders to use either an avatar or a bitmogi as part of their pages. These may be emailed directly to Bernadette. All are encouraged to order their yearbooks through the links provided on the eblast. It's not too late to place that order.
 4. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - Minutes from the February 25, 2021 meeting was provided to the PTK Board for their review and approval. After minimal discussion, the PTK approved the minutes. A final set of the meeting minutes will be available on the website, posted in the CGE blog post, and linked into the e-blast back to the PTK website.
 5. Funding Requests
 - Alison clarified the request submitted by Ms. Sechrest (aka Ms. Kat) last week was for the difference totaling \$94.85 (covering online lesson plans, school supplies, and other activities all supported by receipts. Ms. Kat taught second grade last year and switched to third grade for this school year. Her materials had to be updated appropriate for the third-grade students.) The PTK approved the request for \$94.85.
 6. Supporting Students
 - The PSA video made earlier in this meeting will be sent out to staff. They will then share it with the students in the morning meets before Spring Break.
 - The PTK will also be developing an end of the year activity/event for the students. More details to come in the next meetings of the PTK.
 7. Supporting Staff
 - Alison requested updated mailing address of the teachers to mail out stipends.
 - The highlights of staff are a success! PTK members expressed it is a great way to get to know the team on new levels. It was recommended that this becomes an annual activity. This coming week will be 5th and 4th grade teachers followed by 3rd and 2nd grade.
 8. Enrichment Programs
 - Alison mentioned the 3rd grade enrichment of meditation/mindfulness lessons will start in March for a total of \$1,350 for the ten weeks (\$45 per class per week). Jana asked if Ms. Drysdale had submitted her final cost info for the Let's Find Out subscription and it was listed as a not yet.

The next PTK will be next Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 4 pm. The Zoom login information is consistent (810 0499 1466 CGERocks). The code is available to all within the CGE community via e-blasts and the website. Everyone is welcome to participate.