**Worthington Hooker PTA Meeting Minutes**

**March 17, 2021**

**Call to Order 6:08pm**

**PTA Board Members Present**: Wolfgang Fink, Peter Butler, Claire Roosien, Claire Rowe, William Hawkins, Jessica Light

**Staff Present**: M-M Gethings, J Clarino

**Parents/Guardians Present on Zoom**: Peter Hadler, Melissa McGrath, Maria Threeseser; Kim; Vicki Grubaugh; Kim Shirkhani; Patricia, Bube Banini, Beata, Nicholas Janiga, Nozomi Mia Sumida, Willy, Julie Eskar, Feng Jiang, Melissa and Danny, Hilary Delani, Sandra Malan Bowles, JN, Azaela, Maria O’Dea

**Treasurer’s Report**: William Hawkins reports: received one sizable donation; Insurance refund; predict that by end of year we will be down to half of what we have now; Eat Out Donation is over $300;

**Principal’s Report**:

-Town Hall Mtgs have been happening; more traditional “noise” in school

- Peace Plates hanging in the school - Grade updates: 3rd grade puppets, 1st Grade Publishing

- Soft Starts- 1st grade Pi Day Bracelets

- Purposeful Play- will be offering a parent workshop on Purposeful Play ; focus will be K-4

- Book Study Courageous Conversation About Race; PTA Board Rep

- New Soccer Nets - Clean Up and Beautification Days: 4.10 and ?, boys club will help,

- Outdoor Talent Show will be happening - 4th and 5th graders will be coming 4 days a week

- Covid Reporting- less than 6 is inclusive of 0 cases; you will be informed if there is a positive exposure where your child is exposed. Families would receive letter if the case happened in school

- Residency- if you move out of NH, you can no longer attend NHPS; if you leave to go to private school, you have to go through the Choice and Enrollment office to re-apply

- Questions: N Janiga asked about inclusion of Remote Students if classes decide to go outside for class in nicer weather; MMG said yes, outside Wifi is being installed and Hotspots are being used right now at both buildings.

**New Business:**

**EBT Presentation**: Peter Hadler presenting as he works for Dept Social Services- EBT Benefits- response to the pandemic; EBT cards sent last Spring; All NHPS eligible for these benefits in the Spring; all federal dollars; Community Eligibility Percentage makes it so all NHPS families, regardless of income, are eligible for this; attendance drives the amount a student is allotted, 6.82 per day; three benefit levels: Fully Remote ($122.76 per month), Mostly Remote ($88.66), Hybrid ($34.10); SNAP guidelines in effect (most supermarkets, Amazon, Walmart, local retailers, etc); Periods of time covered are Sept-Jan coming in April and February to End of School coming in June/July; Each child will receive a new card; Why should each family use the benefits? Encouraged to use these to donate food, give to family or friends in need, if you decline to use it it goes back to the Federal Government- can be seen as a tax refund; cards expire after a year. [petehadler@gmail.com](mailto:petehadler@gmail.com); <https://portal.ct.gov/p-ebt>; have to use the card yourself and once the card is used the purchaser can do whatever she/he wants with the food purchased. Elm City Market has a program where you can purchase food and then deliver it to others in need

**ASP Program:** First step is seeing if there are school staff able to work it; survey went out to staff and awaiting results, looking toward the Fall

**Outdoor Community Events Leads:** Maria Serrana 8th Grade

**Teacher Appreciation Week:** May 3-5, volunteers needed. Cater Lunch P&M, Costco Desserts, decorations in a room (Alanna volunteers)

Meeting adjourned 7:32 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 21 at 6pm

Minutes submitted by: Peter Butler