

SMPO Rudder Meeting
OCTOBER MINUTES

October 18, 2022; 6:30pm via in-person and Zoom

Meeting Agenda & Reports Sent Prior to Meeting

IN-PERSON ATTENDEES:

Courtney Ryan - President

Dave Rolfes - Fundraising Coordinator

Andrea Money Penny - Business Manager in Training

Laura Hughes - Executive Secretary

Stephanie Born - Parent Liaison

Kasey Drotar - ILT parent rep

Chris Vockell - Athletics

Sarah Lord - Principal

Robyn Appino - Library Media Specialist

Karen Huneke - 6-9 rep

Lisa Bowden - 9-12 rep

LeAnn Gardner - Community Coordinator

Nikki Marksberry - Parent Rep

Keith Schomaker - Resource Coordinator

Student Council Members

ZOOM ATTENDEES:

Kim Fulbright - Vice President

Allyse Sonnega - Parent-at-large

Jen Robbins - Sands Extracurricular Program (SEP)

Erin Seidel

Heather Gerker - Parent Liaison

Amy Hueneman - Volunteer Coordinator

Beth Tracy-Kaliski - 3-6 Teacher Rep

Meeting called to order at 6:35pm

-Tonight's meeting was hosted by **Courtney Ryan**, SMPO President.

-**Lisa Bowden** made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September.

-**Kasey Drotar** seconds the motion.

-Meeting minutes were approved at 6:37pm.

-Courtney asks for approval of the following:

- Stephanie Dent as co-chair Parent Liaison
- Andrea Money Penny as Business Manager in Training

-SMPO votes and they are officially voted in and approved!

REPORTS AND UPDATES

➤ Karen Huneke:

- Discusses treading new territory with Student Council and starting the year off with a bang!
- Reports that Student Council meets on Wednesday mornings before school. Almost more than half of the Student Council is attending this evening!
- Gives accolades to students.
- Turns it over to the Student Council President to introduce what they do and what they plan to do in the future.
 - President of Student Council, **Piper Hawkins**, introduces the group. Members go around and share their names. Discusses Student Councils' goals:

- host 2 school dances
 - have a few fundraisers this quarter with a bake sale featuring homemade baked goods
 - asks SMPO to donate \$2,000 as a line item to help fund Student Council shirts, decorations, events, dances, etc.
- **Karen Huneke** opens up Q&A:
 - **Courtney** inquires about the dances. “What impact do you want to have on the school and what change do you want to be a part of?”
 - Various Student Council members responded with the following:
 - A great way to build friendships and bonds and impact the ability to learn, to see old friends, and to make new ones
 - A nice way for children to bond and to have fun since we haven’t had Mom Prom or Daddy Daughter Prom
 - People get connected and build stronger relationships
 - **Courtney** asks Student Council members to go home and talk amongst each other about something we can do to bring families from the community together...outdoor movie nights? Family dances? Think about memory makers and brainstorm. What can SMPO do to help the Student Council to bring these to life?
 - **Karen** thanks students, parents of students, and the SMPO for allowing the Student Council to attend.

Student council departs

- **Karen** talks about working with Cybil Brown and looking at a student led community wide fundraising event, one each quarter.
 - Collaborating with troops by donating candy that will be collected from students in the next few weeks.
 - In December, Student Council is hosting a staff breakfast with music and food for the holidays
 - Want to ensure that the staff always feels appreciated
 - Discusses hosting a movie night for the younger age groups and a dance for the older age groups
 - Expresses importance of “memory makers” and giving children that special experience, such as with Camp Joy
- **Kasey Drotar**:
 - Introduces herself and talks about being excited for upcoming community building opportunities
 - **Courtney** welcomes **Keith Schomaker**- school community coordinator;
 - introduces himself, and says that so far, he is loving it!

- invites group to think about how to make the space more inviting for parents and the community
- Gives quick community updates:
 - just celebrated report cards
 - finished Say Something week with anti bullying campaign; it was a big success
- Today we welcomed 9 students from Mcnicholas High School to help with reading assistance
- The owner of The Tome coffee shop will be one of our community reps; asks group to think about potential candidates for the position of the 12th member of the board
- The CRC is hosting a movie night and trunk or treat on October the 28th
- October 31st, school is having a fall costume parade, parents are welcome to come and cheer on the playground
- Saturday, November 5th, there will be a pumpkin chuck at Stanbury Park
- Saturday November 19th, there will be a Thanksgiving giveaway; Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church will be hosting a drive-thru food donation site to pick up things such as turkey, produce, etc.
- Saturday 11/26. Mt washington light the tower event...proposed that stage is looking for performers
- **Robyn Appino** offers to help Keith with learning how to send text messages with talking points and reminders
- **Keith** and **Kasey** brainstorm back and forth about how to communicate with families successfully so that everyone can get the info they need...maybe there could be a quarterly or monthly calendar with printouts for updates and reminders; brainstorming session ensues...
- **Courtney** suggests that maybe her, Keith, Karen, Kasey, and Sara Lord send out monthly updated calendar links?
- A few churches and organizations have reached out to donate to the family center
- **Daughters of the Revolution** have donated clothes
- Asks for any and all ideas on how they can best support our families
 - what items are in high demand?
 - How can we make it fun and cool?

➤ **Sara Lord:**

- Announces 4 new staff members this month:
 - Keith Schomaker
 - New Security Assistant
 - Paraprofessional
 - Preschool teacher (also parent at the school)
- Have requested a second security assistant to be on site
- Thanks SMPO for wonderful breakfast experience
 - Shares snapshot of what it looked like :)

- Say Something week was really successful. Students are feeling empowered to speak up
 - Thanks all for the staff acknowledgements- receives between 6-11 each week
 - ClassDojo is a big success!
 - ILT reviewed all of the Fall data and are coming up with a plan for academics, behavior and culture goals tied to all of these areas
 - must be approved by the ILT and then the LSDMC for final approval
 - PBIS plan was approved and is looking for a parent to serve as well as a student from Student Council
 - Thanks all!
- **Andrea Money Penny:**
- Checking: \$56,838.64
 - Savings: \$33,104.10
- **Jen Robbins:**
- Next semester dates are set up and providers are starting to send me info. Jan. 23 is planned start date.
- **Parent Liaison & Parent at Large Report:**
- This year, we are taking on these roles a little differently - to pilot the idea of reimagining what the roles will actually be in the future. We think it's more fun to work as a team and are combining our efforts. On that note, we are happy to welcome Stephanie to the team :)
 - Our most recent work together was the Sands Report Card Celebration, and it was a success! Sarah Lord requested support for the event, and we never say no to celebrating our teachers - no matter the reason. We had nearly 50 volunteers that donated food, set up for the morning, decorated the sidewalks, and wrote letters of gratitude. We've heard lots of positive feedback from the Sands team.
 - Up next is Donuts with Grownups! This event is an updated version of "Grandparents Day," and we can't wait for it. The date is November 22. It's another team effort with Alysse leading the way. Amy is coordinating volunteers, Nancy is coordinating parking, Yomira will be selling spirit wear, LeAnn is putting info in the weekly newsletter from now until the event, and a flier will be going home to families as soon as Sarah approves. It's shaping up nicely!
 - Would like to maximize family involvement
 - Excited to get family center up and running
 - Discusses finalizing the plans for Donuts with Grownups
 - Explains forms in the parent directory that have been sent out and 68 families have connected

- **LeAnn Gardner:**
 - newsletter is going out on Thursday; if you have anything else to add just send it over.
 - Informs team about FB groups and asks for ideas to better help parents to get all information...
 - Asks if there is a teacher directory of staff members with pictures? Group brainstorms about this.
 - How can we visually make our teachers known?

- **Dave Rolfes:**
 - Streetside Cafe event was a success and they donated \$325 to the SMPO...brewery even extended the hours because of how well it went!
 - Planning to go back in April
 - Chipotle fundraiser is tomorrow
 - In November, will be working on a matching donation system fund drive for outdoor campus
 - \$100 will get a plaque with name on it; Courtney proposes that families are invited to utilize the campus for a community playdate

 - Nikki Marksberry proposes that SMPO sets up a table at the pumpkin chuck for donations
 - There will be 2 restaurant fundraisers in December:
 - Gold Star on 12/7
 - Tom + Chee on 12/15

- **Chris Vockell:**
 - Soccer registration for Spring season is Dec 17th at 12:00pm
 - Basketball; record number of 17 teams; looking for parent coaches
 - **Robyn** and **Chris** talk about Little Eagles basketball teams k-2; encourages older children to teach younger students
 - **Kasey** brings up ensuring that we highlight financial aid opportunities for extra curricular activities which would hopefully encourage people to check it out

- **Beth Tracy-Kaliski:**
 - 2 classrooms going on a field trip on Halloween; thank you SMPO for the buses!
 - Schoolhouse Symphony coming soon for the first time this year!
 - Teachers are so grateful for breakfast last week and for notes of appreciation

- **Karen Huneke:**
 - Everyone is working hard with assessments and testing
 - We went on a field trip to the Children's Theatre to see Descendants
 - Kids are looking forward to the Halloween parade

- Thanks SMPO for breakfast and for allowing time for staff to visit with teammates and enjoy each others' company
- **Lisa Bowden:**
 - Green Acres field trips are underway
 - thanks SMPO for mini grants
 - Going to see Black Violin at the Aronoff on Nov. 15th and utilizing buses; thanks again!
 - Witnessing the SMPO and Student Council coming together is very exciting
 - One of the 9-12 communities planted potatoes and they may have accidentally been dug up!
- **Robyn Appino:**
 - Expresses that she really appreciated the opportunity to have a central place to hang out as teachers and friends during the breakfast. Thanks SMPO for creating that for the staff.
 - Kids are excited about Book Fair;
 - In the past, I have asked parents to donate to the book fair, but this year I have put out an Ewallet link to ensure that each student walks away with something! Book Fair keeps the library afloat!
- **Kasey Drotar:**
 - we have 2 testing coordinators so we are trying to do it in one block to avoid too much disruption
 - ILT is breaking meeting up into more working sections
 - One Plan: This year the district's goals are tied to the ABC's (academics, behavior, culture) per the superintendent. There will be a focus on growth, not just achievement. Every Child Reads will also continue to be a goal. Schools will personalize goals in these areas.
 - Sands will break students into 4 categories (above, at, below, and well below mastery) to promote growth for all students
 - Classroom walk-throughs will continue to help support staff. Teachers will provide 3 keys about of their learning plans: objective/standard, activity/procedure, and assessment. A request was made to provide an opportunity for all staff to collaborate to discuss lesson plans.
 - Sands needs a reading specialist
 - Halloween Parade: it was approved to move the Halloween Parade from Oct. 28 to Oct. 31
 - Anti-Vaping Program: It was approved to have Jen Toebbe set up an Anti-Vaping Program for students.

➤ **Courtney Ryan:**

- Notices the time and decides that we will touch on old business first thing during the meeting in November.
- Encourages all to review ideas for fundraising events
- Will start a Google Drive for “memory makers” that we can share with Student Council
- (Teacher reps): The Nature Guys podcast would like teachers to share how the playscape is being used positively or negatively; how or how has it not been a good overall experience...what would make it better?
 - **Robyn** suggests using this as a writing prompt for the students

NEW BUSINESS

- New Spirit Wear merchandise ideas coming
 - Should we do a design contest?
- Mount Washington Thanksgiving November 19, 1-2:30pm
 - Can we have a presence there?
 - Can we donate 100 books for families (6-9 y/o level)
- See all events on the SMPO calendar

Courtney motions to adjourn.

Laura seconds to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08pm

Courtney invites everyone to celebrate birthdays at Big Ash next month after the meeting!