

Fowler Middle School
Thursday, September 16th, 2021
7:00-8:00pm

PSO Meeting Notes

1. Called to Order

At 7:04pm on September 16th, 2021 on Google Meet by PSO President Wendy Jenkins.

2. Welcome & Introductions

3. Attendees

Andy Van Fleet, Wendy Jenkins, Jennifer Vasicek, Heather Champion, Lisa Meyers, Marnie Watts-Tupou, Kristi Sloan, Taylor Hughes, Claire Kolkoski, Beth Schuff, Tonia Banks, Kim Matsler, Coco Flores, Laura Mann, Michelle, and Dan

4. Principal's Report - Andy Van Fleet

Successfully navigated seven days of school in-person, and really excited to see our sixth graders show up for their orientation day after 18 months of being at home.

Everything they are doing is just awesome and we are absolutely thrilled to be back in the building and seeing our kids behaving so well and being so committed to being safe for themselves and others. We are so fortunate that everything is running so smoothly. And are in a very nice place right now, and fingers crossed it stays that way for as long as possible.

Reminder to families to have your students bring water bottles to school. With the high volume of 800 students in the building there are water stations set up everywhere but need containers in order to stay hydrated as there might not be enough drinking cups for all on a daily basis.

Additional updates to share, back in June we were aware of potential loss of about 4-6 staff members at Fowler due to transitioning or retiring. Recently I learnt that we will have approximately 25 new hires at Fowler.

Questions Asked of Mr. Van Fleet:

1. Do we have any sense of how many students are vaccinated?

We've asked families to upload their vaccination cards into Synergy so we can do a poll to get an idea of those numbers. I don't have those at my fingertips yet, I doubt they're quite as high as the general adult population.

2. What is the current protocol for safe seating on buses?

Last year when we were in hybrid, with only a third of the students on campus in any given time it was a lot easier to space students on the bus, but this year we're running a full school with a few more buses that have been added but not enough to provide one seat per student and therefore not meeting the 3 feet of separation guidelines and wished I had better news on that. Just like in the classroom and halls, we trust our bus drivers and students are in compliance with masks on the bus for the entire route, but will have to continue to coach on that front.

5. Vice-Principal's Report - Marnie Watts-Tupou

We've been focusing on when and where the students are gathering to relieve congestion. There have been several changes for your students if they attended Fowler prior to this year. The front doors are not locked, as students slowly come in they can now stop at their lockers and then onto class and no longer gather in one space waiting for school to begin. I've been liking this flow, so that has been one big change, another is our lunch system. Rather than just having all 260 6th graders eating lunch in the courtyard, students are urged to eat outside while maintaining social distance, which allows them a break from face masks. Additionally, students on buses are held in their classrooms and then released by bus in intervals. Things have been a little crazy, but we are working out our new systems, and the students are doing a wonderful job adapting.

Questions Asked of Mrs. Marnie Watts-Tupou

1. When it starts to rain outside and get colder do we have additional covered areas or anything like that in order for the students to continue to be at a safe distance for lunch?

We have a few tables that we can move under covered areas and also thinking we might use the front awning of the building. Quotes for large tents are being collected, but running into barriers such as the less expensive version of tent needs to be taken down each day to stay within warranty and we don't have the capacity to do that, while the expensive version of tent is about \$10,000. We've walked the campus with operations folks assessing every creative idea that has been presented. Students love eating outside, and we want to continue to provide them with the option to eat safely with masks off and comfortably as the weather changes. We are not giving up and we're looking at all sorts of possibilities. We could use the library, stage and allow the students to spread out and eat lunch in front of their lockers too. All things we've never done before but this year everything is on the table.

6. Old Business

- a. Approval of Minutes
The minutes from June 8, 2021 were distributed and approved.
- b. Elect Secretary
A motion to elect Jacquelyn Proper as Secretary was approved, seconded, and carried.

7. New Business

- a. Reports - President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Committees
 - i. Due to the pandemic, many of our typical activities are cancelled. There is not going to be a school dance in the fall, though I believe we are still hoping to hold a dance in the spring.
 - ii. Remember to visit the [Fowler PSO website](#) and social apps for an update to date listing of all school activities.
 - iii. If you plan on volunteering this year, please double check your status to make sure your approval/training with the district hasn't expired. For additional information, visit the [Volunteer](#) page of the PSO website.
 - iv. We had a good back-to-school event and sold a lot of spirit wear earning close to \$1,400. All we have left is a few t-shirts, and looking forward to getting a new design from Coco.
 - v. Would like to open the store again and the students will hear about it next week. Andrea isn't able to be here tonight, but wanted to share that she will be stocking the inventory and then it will be ready to roll.
 - vi. Treasurer
 1. Claire Kolkoski is taking over as Treasurer for Heather Jordan. We don't have a budget update as of yet as we are meeting next week for training from Heather. The budget will be presented at our next meeting.
 2. Asked if the PSO can get a credit card reader for sales such as shirts.
 - a. Administration will touch base with the Business Office to see if this is a possibility.
 - vii. Taylor Hughes had a new fundraiser suggestion that has worked well at Mary Woodward of collecting leftover candy to trade into dental offices for money. PSO worked with the leadership students at MWW to standby bins and assist with the collection of the candy. Her experience is that it

was a quick commitment of about a week and easy money maker if Fowler was interested in doing something similar.

- viii. Helen Cadman and Beth Schuff are willing to take on Staff Appreciation.
 - 1. Taylor Hughes volunteered to assist.
- ix. Tracy Johnson volunteered for the Dining Out Fundraiser.
- x. Open Positions
 - 1. Spirit Wear - need Coordinator for ordering and managing sales
 - 2. Bottle Drop Coordinator
 - 3. Dining Out Fundraiser - Co-Coordinator wanted
 - a. Need someone to help bounce ideas off of. Do any of you have suggestions for new restaurants she should approach?
 - i. Taylor Hughes offered to help and would contact Tracy Johnson directly.
 - 4. Caring Closet Liaison
 - 5. Fall Pledges Coordinator
 - a. Wendy to double check if a parent already volunteered for this position or not.
 - 6. Spring Online Auction Coordinator
 - 7. Spring Coin Drive Coordinator
 - 8. 8th Grade Celebration Coordinator

8. Meeting Adjourned

- a. Next meeting is scheduled to be held on October 21, 2021 at 7:00p.m.