

Dondero PTA – September 2020 Meeting Minutes

Date: September 24th, 2020

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Zoom

Purpose: This is the 1st General PTA Meeting of the 2020-2021 school year.

Executive Board Attendees/Invitees

Name	Present	Contact	Capacity
Alexis Lang	Yes	alexis.lang@comcast.net	President
Jana Goldstein	Yes	janakgoldstein@gmail.com	Vice President
Jannice Hodges	Yes	jannicehodges@gmail.com	Treasurer
Sarah Lynch	Yes	sarahalibby@yahoo.com	Secretary
Kate Callahan	Yes	kcallahan@sau52.org	Principal

Agenda

Welcome & Introductions
Approval of June 2020 Minutes
Principal's Report- Kate Callahan
Treasurer's Report- Jannice
Budget Approval FY21

CheddarUp and online payments/forms (back to school forms etc)-Alexis

Teacher Appreciation-Melissa Vetter

- Sept. 9th lunch
- Oct. 9th Ideas
- Amazon Gift Cards

Dine out for Dondero- Jess Harris

- Sept. 30th Vida Cantina
- Oct./Nov. Ideas

Playground- Amber Buttermore

- New slide and Plantings
- Musical Instruments
- Stage
- Grants

Family Photo Sessions- Oct 17th- Jana Goldstein

Square One Art- Jannice Hodges

Yearbook- Sarah Lynch

QUESTIONS? Email us at: DonderoPTA@gmail.com

Discussion

- The meeting was called to order at 6:36pm by PTA President, Alexis Lang.
- Quorum obtained; five out of five members of the Executive Board were present.
- June 2020 PTA Minutes were distributed for review. Minutes approved unanimously.

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Principal Report- Kate Callahan

- Teachers spent first two weeks of year planning. Hybrid consists of M/T in person learning with teachers teaching in school and at home students W-F. K-1 students attend 2 hrs and 50 mins 4 days a week for in person learning. Teachers are assessing K-1st for learning groups. Intent is to add more students for in person as the year progresses. All three Portsmouth Elementary schools are collaborating on project based learning. Lunch and transportation needs dictated who could come in person.

Budget- Jannice Hodges

- Budget approved unanimously for 20/21.
- PTA board decided against hosting outdoor movies due to licensing issues. Elizabeth Craig to research renting a theatre at Cinemagic for possible movie night/fundraising event.
- Spiritwear orders to go out soon.
- Popcorn has made \$500 already.
- So far this year PTA has spent \$2000 on teacher gift cards, \$500 on teacher appreciation, and \$96 on CheddarUp software.

Cheddar Up/Online Payments- Alexis Lang

- After researching Venmo, CheddarUp was found to be the best program for our needs. E-mail PTA with any issues using the program.

Fundraisers- Alexis Lang

- Mums Sale has made \$900 to date. 200 mums sold. Parents can pick up mums under the tent on 9/28. PTA plans to organize a winter plant sale consisting of poinsettias, wreaths, and kissing balls.
- Amazon Smile can now be enabled on the Amazon app. Easy way to direct money to the PTA. Lifetime donation as of August from Amazon to Dondero is \$1052.
- Boxtop fundraiser eliminated due to shrinking program. Alexis to research Target Circle to replace Boxtops.

Teacher Appreciation- Melissa Vetter

- PTA provided lunch from Googies for teachers on Sept. 9th as a welcome back.
- Upcoming teacher appreciation event on Oct. 9th- thinking bagels and coffee. Meals will be kept simple this year to avoid exposure. Nothing homemade will be served. Elizabeth Craig volunteered to help.
- Hoping to involve 5th graders in planning for teacher appreciation events. Ideas include using the school's button maker and pencil engraver.
- Email PTA if you'd like to volunteer with Teacher Appreciation. All volunteers will need to connect with Sarah Gagne the school nurse before entering school.

Dine out for Dondero- Jess Harris

- Difficult finding restaurants interested in participating during these financially challenging times.
- First Dine Out night will be held on September 30th at Vida Cantina.
- Looking into Chipotle for the next event. They will donate 33% of sales instead of the typical 10%.
- Please send any ideas for restaurants to Jess Harris. Melissa Vetter suggested Portsmouth Brewery's Pasta Night to tie into the Saucy Don's event that was cancelled last winter.

Playground- Amber Buttermore

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- Fence has been provided at no charge for additional weeks to protect plantings. Hopefully it will come down Columbus Day weekend.
- Musical Instruments were provided through a Portsmouth Rotary Grant and installed for free by the owner of Site Structures who happens to be a Rotarian.
- Within one week three donors have reached out to Dondero to help with the playground. Timberland – we requested help with brush clearing, plantings, and more benches. Liberty Mutual- they would like to give \$5000 again this year towards the playground budget and specifically an accessibility walk. Bangor Savings- they on deciding by Oct 1st on a \$10k grant we requested.
- Little Clipper Grant is on hold for Story Walk-hoping Timberland can help install. Story Walk will tie in with school's science curriculum.
- Stage completed thanks to Alice Carey's husband. Kids are loving it!
- Basketball Hoops- project has been on hold due to drainage issues that fall under the city's budget. City will not address this for at least 5 years though. PTA thinking we should move ahead and fundraise for a new court and hoops.
- DPW blowing fog horns every morning to remove geese from playground field.
- Thank you to Buttermores for watering new plantings this summer.

Family Photo Session- Jana Goldstein

- Oct 17th - two professional photographers Brenna Jennings and Carina Masticola have volunteered to donate their time and take family portraits for \$40/per family suggested donation. Each session will be 5 minutes long and families will receive two digital prints. Details with sign up will go out soon.

Square One Art- Jannice Hodges

- Each child will receive a piece of paper with student info. See email from Adam Bastille with details. Fundraiser will make more money the more families that participate. E-mail photo of art or deliver in school. Artwork due by Oct 21st.

Yearbook- Sarah Lynch

- Will send out link to Tree Ring software so parents and teachers can share photos for yearbook. Picture Day will be 9/28 and each child will have a photo in the yearbook.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday October 15th, 6:30pm via Zoom.

Submitted by: Sarah Lynch, Dondero PTA Secretary