

PAC meeting minutes 8/17/2020 via Zoom

Secretary – Melissa Canarvis – mcanarvis@gmail.com

Co-Chair (Clubs) – Erin DiCesare – edicesare5@yahoo.com

Co-Chair (Events) – Annie Miraglia – anniemiraglia@gmail.com

In attendance: Mrs. Cahill, Melissa Canarvis, Meredith Mortimer, Annie Miraglia, JJ Calnon, Tricia Haenle, Jackie Coccia, Terri Sichak

Principal's Remarks: There have been a lot of tasks to ensure the safe return to school and Mrs. Cahill feels very comfortable with each task checked off in keeping our students and staff safe for this 2020-21 school year. There are a lot of anxieties right now with the unknown. She will continue to communicate with families and if there are any additional questions, please email or call her. There have been some parent informational forums via Zoom and still 2 left this week. There are still some details that are being worked on at this time.

- School enrollment – Losing some families, mostly in preschool grades due to the policies and that some families do not want their child's first school experience to be like our current situation. There have been 20 new registrations, but there have been some dropped enrollments as well. Currently there is a wait list for PreK 3 and 4, Kindergarten and 5th grades.
- Masks – No restrictions on theme of mask (as long as it is not offensive), can be unicorns and dinosaurs, for example; however, the mask needs to be 2-layered. The school will provide one SPX mask at the beginning of the year, additional masks can be ordered when we place out spirit wear order in the fall. If students are sitting at their desks and are 6 feet away from others, they may take off their masks during instruction (per teacher guidance). There will also be a mask-free zone in the classroom if space allows (per teacher guidance). Masks need to be worn coming on/leaving school, in the hallways and whenever a 6-foot distance is not possible in the classroom.
- School Supply Drop Off – Mrs. Cahill is looking at a date for this to occur, possibly September 8th. More information to follow.
- Additional questions on the re-opening plan –
 - ~*What supplies with remote learners need?* Just the basics (pencils, pens, notebooks, access to technology, etc.), textbooks will be supplied by the school (the school is also working with the textbook companies regarding online modules to use instead of textbooks), Chromebooks can be signed out if a remote student needs one for home use.
 - ~*If my remote student comes back to school after the first 10 weeks, will she get a planner?* Yes
 - ~*Can my remote student still attend monthly SPX school masses?* Mrs. Cahill said that she will check with Father Paul on the church capacity for monthly masses and will let those families know, but she would like remote students to attend mass if possible and should be in school uniform.
 - ~*What if my child needs to use the bathroom during a "non-scheduled class time", what is that process?* An Aide will be available for bathroom breaks outside of the class bathroom breaks, if needed (to avoid congestion in the bathrooms/hallways).

~Will there be barriers on the desks, such as the classroom pictures from a few schools in the superintendent's email? There are no barriers on the desks, but each room will be taped off in a grid-like fashion, so each student will have their own 6-foot diameter space. Teachers will be establishing the traffic flow in the classroom, such as using the coatroom, throwing out trash, lunches, etc.

- Additional information from Mrs. Cahill –

~Remote students will either watch the live instruction or the recording of the live instruction

~If the school needs to close, teachers will continue to teach from their classrooms, if there is still access to the building

~There will be a blended learning model used to help familiarize students with technology and various platforms. This will also be useful in the event that the school needs to close due to the pandemic; students will be very familiar with technology to use at home.

Monthly Topics Discussed:

Clubs: A discussion occurred about virtual clubs, what could be offered, who will chair, what times can we have these, and how should this occur.

- Since students will be on busses transported home, some will be in aftercare, and then there is dinner and homework, the only thought was to have these clubs occur in the evening, but this may not be the best time for families either. We discussed decreasing times for virtual K-2 clubs to 30 minutes and grades 3-5 to 45 minutes due to being on the computer and maintaining the student's attention. We also discussed sending out a survey to families to see what clubs they would be interested in, if they would be interested in chairing a club, and what times they could do for clubs. After much discussion, it was decided that we would offer a monthly "Virtual Challenge" for clubs instead of scheduled days and times. This would allow for more participation (would not need to limit attendance) and would not cause scheduling concerns. We also discussed if there should be a K-2 and a 3-5 and/or split the year with older students first semester and younger students second semester.
- PAC discussed having 4 "Virtual challenges" per month, so students had the option of at least participating in 1 of these if they were interested but could do all 4 if they wanted to. These would include:
 1. Photography – Chair is Tricia Haenle (**need a co-chair**)
 2. Service – Chair is Meredith Mortimer and Co-Chair is Jackie Coccia
 3. Art – Chair is Tricia Haenle (**need a co-chair**); check with Alicia O'Brocta since she did 3-5 art club last year
 4. Leggo – check with Erin DiCesare to see if she would chair (**need a co-chair**)
- We also discussed Run club and it will occur in the Spring (hopefully in person). Terri Sichak and JJ Calnon will chair grades 3-5 and JJ will be looking to see if she could find someone to chair the K-2 run club (we have time until this occurs).

~The "Virtual Challenges" would be posted at the beginning of each month (possibly starting in November) and there would be an end date in that month to get the challenge completed by. The student (or parents) would email their completed challenge, such as

taking a picture of the completed challenge, etc. to the chair and a collage or slide show would be created with the final products and emailed out to our SPX school families to view and/or posted on the school PAC board. **More discussion will occur at the next PAC meeting**, since Erin DiCesare was not able to attend this meeting.

Events: PAC would like to have at least 1 school event in the fall, and this will help promote a school community.

- Discussed a socially distanced “Trunk-or-Treat” since we will not be able to do a school trick-or-treating this year, which would occur outside in the parking lot. Possibly also setting up a table for “decorating your own small pumpkin” and seeing if a local farm would donate the small pumpkins. Not sure how parents would feel overall about this, but it appeared that there was a positive consensus with those in attendance at the PAC meeting. **More discussion next month.**
- Discussed Spatters bags activity for painting ceramics. Tricia said that Splatters will ship the bags to you, and you ship them back to get fired in the kiln or drop them off. **Tricia will check on this and report at the next meeting.**
- Virtual bingo is another option (not discussed specifically at the meeting, but it was an idea on the agenda).

Additional Topics Discussed:

- PAC bulletin board – Meredith Mortimer will put together the PAC board to include a “year-long” (Welcome Back and be Happy) Catholic School theme, since there will not be additional foot traffic in the school at this time. The current board (from March) will be taken down and stored with the PAC materials for future use.
- Logo Attire - Will be doing another “spirit wear” order this fall and will include a SPX face mask that can be ordered (adult and child sizes). Annie will coordinate.
- PAC meetings 2020-21 – PAC meetings will be held on the **SECOND** Monday of each month at 6:30pm. **We may need to change a few meetings due to holidays but will discuss the PAC meeting schedule at the next meeting.**
- Parent Night/Meet the Teachers – This will take place virtually sometime in September, Mrs. Cahill will send out the info when she schedules it (possibly the 2nd week of school).
- Uniform Policy – The handbook has been updated. We will not be able to have a used uniform sale at this time.
- Case Training – “What is CASE training and why do you need to be certified?” Information needs to be sent out soon to all families with directions on why and how to get CASE certified; the SPX school office will send out this information. Meredith made a parent-friendly form for the back-hallway PAC board last year and Mrs. Cahill may also use this information for parents.
- Quarterly treats for staff – Will use sign-up genius to coordinate this per grade level:
Sept/Oct – 4th/5th grades to host (Melissa Canarvis and Terri Sichak, grade chairs)
January – 2nd/3rd grades to host (Annie Miraglia and JJ Calnon, grade chairs)
March – PreK3, PreK4, Kindergarten and 1st grade families to host (**grade chairs needed**)

May – Teacher Appreciation Lunch – open to all grades to contribute (Jackie Coccia and Meredith Mortimer, chairs)

Dates TBD

- Fundraising – discussed doing a BBQ take-out fundraiser in the fall, using either Texas BBQ or Sticky Lips (end of September or early October), **Annie to look into and report at next meeting. We will need volunteers for this event.**
- Discussed using more online surveys/sign-up sheets rather than sending home paper forms, less money and will be easier to get the information faster (and since there are limited visitors allowed in the school). **Maybe have a bi-monthly PAC newsletter emailed to parents to include PAC meeting dates, Zoom invite, upcoming events, etc. or to include in the Wednesday electronic envelope???**

Continuing On HOLD for now due to school closure:

- Vending machine options in the cafeteria
- Reorganization of room 20 with new cabinet(s)
- Cafeteria Mural
- Change in School Uniforms – phase in

If there are any topics you specifically would like discussed at any future meeting, please let Melissa Canarvis know (mcanarvis@gmail.com).

*****Next PAC meeting – September 14th at 6:30 pm, via Zoom:**

Agenda to include: virtual club challenges discussion, fall event(s), BBQ fundraiser, communicating PAC info to families/sign-ups/surveys, PAC meeting dates, Quarterly faculty/staff “treat” dates/ideas