

## PTSA Summer Listening Meeting

8.19.20

**Attendees:** Megan Hochstatter, Mariana Zantop, Sarah Kent, Mary McDaniel, Alyssa Hays, Katey Ricker, Meg Viera, Meg Gayman, John Gayman, Jennifer Colossimo, Line Nya Ng..., Sean Bennett, Isabella Hashimoto, Julie Riccio, Sharon Hamill, Stephanie Forman, Patricia Milillo, Jaclyn, Kutlay Topatan, Lily St. Leger, Jennifer Campbell, Meghan Squires, Vyanessa Stephan, Chris Tschirgi, Ashley Burchett, Irene Akio, Matt Walsh, Ashley Robles, Jessica Shearer, Amanda Bagsby, Ankita Dhir, Nichelle, Adam Rakunas, Brooke Fitts, Lori Badruswamy, Jen Siems, Scott Corwin, Sarah Buhayar, Rachel Oppenheim, Quin, 206-231-7777, Allison Schwartz, Tara and Ahmed, Samara Louton, 206-331-1297, 206-427-5893

### Principal's Report – Mary McDaniel

- Mary was able to welcome incoming kindergartners and their families online during Jump Start.
- Current enrollment is 255 students.
- School will be 100% online in the fall. Not sure about winter yet.
- There will be no back to school BBQ.
- Teachers will meet twice with parents for online curriculum night. The first will take place before school starts. Families will be notified of dates, with weekday and weekend options available.
- The first day of school has been moved to Sept. 4 to allow for 6 days of professional development for the teachers.
- The kindergarten schedule is still being negotiated by the School District and the Union.
- Backpacks with school supplies will be distributed to all students and will be replenished every quarter. Dates for backpack pick-up at the school will be communicated to parents.
- All K-2 students will be getting iPads. Students in grades 3-5 will get laptops.
- Mary will create survey monkey for parents to provide feedback to the school.
- Madrona will have a full time counselor and family support worker this year.

### Q&A

#### What will a school day look like?

Students in grades 1-5 will start the day at 8:30am with community meetings, then ELA or math mini-lessons where the teacher introduces the learning target and standards. Then students will break out into small groups based on skill level. Teachers will pop into small groups to check for understanding and questions. Ms. Tammy, the Reading Specialist, and parent/community volunteers will also provide small group support. At the end of the small groups the teacher returns and closes up the lesson. On Wednesdays, teachers will just hold small instruction groups instead of whole group teaching. Students will also get instruction in science and social studies (Madrona is waiting on guidance from the District). Students will get a break from 11am-1pm for lunch and recess (if the schedule is approved by the Union) to allow families to pick up free lunches.

**How are skill levels assessed?**

Student skill levels will be assessed based on surveys completed during the spring. Madrona will use “running record” assessments – teachers constantly taking notes on individual students – rather than MAP or FMP. Students will be able to interact with all 3 teachers in their grade.

**How much parent involvement will be needed?**

Madrona will be using Microsoft Teams, Seesaw and Schoology. School will be teacher and student led; parents do not need to be involved. Small group volunteers are welcome, though.

**Will each class in each grade get the same lessons?**

Yes. There will be multiple teachers, but the grades will be seen as a whole.

**Will there be any training for parent volunteers?**

Parents will meet first with teachers so they know what the teachers will be teaching.

**How will art, music and PE work remotely?**

Library, music, art and PE will have virtual classrooms and do 30 minute lessons as if the kids were in school.

**Will students be penalized for missing lessons if they can't be present?**

Parents need to e-mail Mary if their work schedule is going to interfere with on-line learning. The school will not penalize students, but it needs to know who will need extra support. Teachers will record lessons for students who cannot attend each day. Videos will be made available to the students. Students may get extra help on Wednesdays or after school.

**When can people expect to see a schedule?**

This depends on the Union and the District. The end of the school day is still up in the air.

**When will class assignments be communicated?**

Lists have been sent to teachers. Hopefully parents will be updated next week. Parents can't call the school because the office is closed.

**When are computers and iPads coming?**

The tech roll-out timeline has not yet been decided. Mary asked that Title I schools be considered first and is hoping that the devices are delivered before school starts.

**Are we still a uniform school? Is there a dress code for classes?**

Madrona is still a uniform school, but kids will not be required to wear uniforms. There is no dress code.

**Do all kids have to turn on the video, or can they participate by voice only? Some students might not feel comfortable showing their home environment online.**

Madrona is in the process of creating online learning guidelines. Parents are asked to designate a space in their house for online learning. Teachers need to be able to see the students, in part for safety reasons. Counselors and Family Support Workers will reach out to families to see how they can help. There is a blurred background/background picture function in Microsoft Teams that can be used. Mary will talk to teachers about privacy concerns.

**How are we going to keep kids (especially kindergartners) attentive during online learning?**

Teachers are going to be very flexible about this. It's ok to move around. It takes 3 months for kindergartners to adjust to kindergarten. Teachers can mute students if they need to. Mary will be checking in with kindergarten parents to make sure things are working out.

**Volunteering – Sarah Kent**

- SPS is switching to a new volunteer database. Currently, new families can't fill out volunteer applications. Once the application is completed, a background check will be done and Sarah will train people on how to be virtual volunteers. If you've filled out an application in the past, it will automatically be carried over. Background checks are run every 2 years.

Current volunteer opportunities

- Family Resource Center (FRC)- 1-3 hour slots available every week to help get grocery cards, food, and hygiene supplies to students and their families.
- Backpack Brigade - assist with stuffing backpacks.
- Virtual volunteers needed to facilitate small groups for 20 minutes at a time. Need special permission for Madrona parents to train other parents in how to use Seesaw, Schoology and Microsoft Teams.

**Communication – Alyssa Hays**

- Mailchimp newsletters will be sent out twice a month.
- Additional information will be communicated through blog posts on the Madrona PTSA website.
- Go to [Madronapta.org](http://Madronapta.org) to subscribe to newsletter and see school/event calendar.
- To add Google calendar to your calendar, find the Google calendar at the bottom of the PTSA webpage. Click on the plus sign in the right lower corner and it will sync with your calendar.
- The Facebook page is open to the public. The Facebook group is private.
- All Facebook posts will also go on the blog.
- No print will be sent this year.
- Mary communicates with families using School Messenger because it can be translated into multiple languages.

## **Are there other online tools we can use other than Facebook and Twitter to make communication more equitable?**

- Sarah got a big response from calls and texting families.
- WhatsApp is free and is used to communicate with families all around the world.
- Please share your ideas at the general meeting.

## **Immigrant Support Group – Sharon Hamill**

- Acknowledge immigrant families and help them navigate systems.
- Work closely with family support worker.
- Coffee and Conversation meeting on Fridays for parents who do not speak English as a first language.

## **Introduction of Executive Board Members**

Lily St. Leger – Co-President.

Alyssa Hays – Co-President.

Amanda Bagsby – VP.

Mariana Zantop – Secretary

## **Miscellaneous**

Middle schoolers used to participate in the PTSA. Are looking into having some 5<sup>th</sup> graders participate if there is interest. Mary will check in with Mr. Moss about rotating leadership groups and having students attend/represent.

If you have ideas for the PTSA or want to help, but don't know where it might fit in, reach out to Sarah or Alyssa or Lily and they will find a spot for you.

School committees such as the Family Resource Center, Communications, Fundraising, etc. will be discussed further at the first general meeting.

The PTSA budget has not yet been approved pending what the school year will look like.

The first PTSA meeting of the year will be in early September.

**\*\*Thursday mornings at 8:30am there is an informal chat for parents to connect and share thoughts and questions.**