



Sargent PTO Meeting #1  
September 22, 2021

## Minutes

1. Meeting preview (2 minutes):
  - a. Introduction of the PTO
  - b. Quick hello from everyone on the call
  - c. Principal's report
  - d. Some updates from us
  - e. Open discussions
2. Hello from everyone on the call – just names, kids/grades.
3. Principal's Report (10 minutes)
  - Added a third 2nd grade class to reduce class size; hired Mr Bricetti as the teacher; 5th - Ms Gibbons; Mr Koval - PE
  - average class size is 15
  - Dr. Landahl wants to attend Oct meeting
  - iReady training for teachers and assistants - refresher course 90 min (last year math only) this year adding ELA. Other elems are doing this as well.
  - Hooked up a hose to the new tree
  - Knows of broken swing - has been ordered, slow getting to us.
  - Maintenance brought in mulch on playground
  - Open House tomorrow night - 2 sessions (*QUESTION from Andrea: Will she get a link?*)
  - Lunches - 6 ft rule - spaced out cafeteria and added new tables; tent outside - allow one classroom per day to eat outside
  - Had to correct a few kids to wear masks
  - Environmental club with Ms Hammond - promoting recycling, decrease footprint, sensory garden, watering trees, etc
  - 5th grade has 2 field trips - Mt Beacon; Barn at Long Doel
  - Grade level meetings starting next week - SEP plan - improvements for building.
  - Building Leadership Team - needs 2 parents - diversity to represent student population - do you want to talk about what the school needs, what you like about the school - the positive things that happen at Sargent. Meet 3-4x year. Puts a rep on the Capital Team Project
  - Pavement - in disrepair - has spoke with Central about that - has told it was part of plan to fix.
  - Has HEPA filters - keep running all the time
  - New water bottle refilling stations installed already (*QUESTION from Maria G: Bathrooms need to be pointed out to kids, etc*)
  - Social / Emo needs seminar



4. Updates (15 mins)
  - a. Scholastic Book Fair
  - b. Spirit of Beacon Day is on Sunday, September 26th
  - c. Fall photos - Sept 27 - held in gym
  - d. Spirit Wear
  - e. Birthday Book Boxes
  - f. Pollinator Pathways
    - i. Can we host a site on grounds? Volunteer needed to work with City.
    - ii. Plant friendly flowers where they won't get eaten by deer/groundhogs?
    - iii. Donation of plugs from One Nature
  - g. Events / Family Fun Nights / Fundraisers
    - i. Calendar of Events available at our website and will be handed out to families
    - ii. Sign up to help
  - h. PTO Board Openings: Secretary
  - i. Bottle refillable water fountains
  
5. Open discussions and brainstorms (20 mins)
  - a. How is everyone's school year going so far? Staff/Teachers? Parents?
  - b. Interest in outdoor events
  - c. Virtual talks - experts in important topics or facilitated conversations about issues for our community and families
  - d. Other ideas to help support kids and staff (Racial Justice: What would we like to tackle this year?)

Collection Bin - (Andrea) Can we contact the company to have it shifted down to the end of the lot?  
Parking spaces are not utilized fully regarding this space - secondary point: a lot of congestion  
(Kathryn) Can we paint a mini-mural on the bin? (Audrey) Or move the bins to the upper BCSD lot.

Masks - Melissa is concerned about masks being pulled down, or kids getting too close outside after school is over. Maria - More messaging to parents about masking? Mr Archer is pulling kids out to talk to them.

Maybe kids need a visual of 3 feet outside - what does that look like?

Some teachers are not wearing masks properly, and remove them immediately upon going outside but still within 3 feet of others

Covid testing update - teachers or students? Mr. Archer didn't know if it were for teachers or students.

What's up with Spirit of Beacon Day? PTO decided not to host an event; but welcome to do it next year if there are volunteers.



Why can't we put the wall-mounted AC units in the hallways? You wouldn't need as many of these and they wouldn't need to run constantly. Also, if the concern is blowing out fuses with too many AC units running simultaneously, I'm wondering why that particular issue isn't being addressed from year to year, especially with grants and state funding for updating our facilities?