

Terra Nova PTO General Meeting

September 22, 2020, 7:00PM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Tiffany Hanna at 7:02pm

In attendance: Tiffany Hanna, Rachel Cauterrucio, Nicole Copeland, Jen Uter, Julie Arnaudo, Rita Sargent, Megan Carey, Christy Allen, Jenny Guibadouline, Don Potter, Ellen Camp, Monika Shrestha, Sarah Bucini, Monica Woodworth, and others

Approval of Minutes: We did not have minutes from our August 24th meeting to approve

1) Welcome – Tiffany Hanna

2) Principal's Report - Megan Carey presented an update on the happenings at Terra Nova.

- She said that the Special Ed department got two new case managers and is now fully staffed. They are on year 2 of the program where kids take general ed classes with intensive support from paraprofessionals.
- School clubs - Many school clubs are taking a break during At Home Learning since they can't be together, however, some clubs are still wanting to stay active since they don't need to be together. They are reaching out to their club advisors.
- Attendance Requirement - They are offering multi level support for kids with low or no attendance. They have spent many hours giving support to students and parents over the phone and have even dropped off devices to students' houses.
- Wellness Counseling - Added MFT Intern and Counselor in training to help support the counseling department.
- Back to School Night - Will be Wednesday September 23rd. At 6pm. Mrs. Carey will conduct a live webinar then the teachers will have pre-recorded videos available on the TN Website after the webinar.
- Mrs. Carey answered questions about:
 - Picture day. Student IDs will not be given to the students on picture day like in the past. They will be handed out later by Terra Nova.
 - Senior Portraits will be off campus in a studio and there will also be an option to submit a Senior Selfie for the Yearbook

3) Two mini grants, one for materials Mrs. Jenkins' English 10 class and one for scheduling software for the counseling department were approved

4) Three teacher stipend reimbursement requests were approved

- Materials for Mr. Poling's Chemistry class
- A laptop for Mr. Chan so he can have better online Classes

- Classroom materials for Ms. Fil's Class

5) Treasurer's Update - Don Potter said we have a healthy amount of money in our account and it's good to see teachers asking for mini grants and using the Teacher Stipend money. That being said we should still conduct some kind of fundraising this year even if it's as simple as a direct ask letter.

6) TNEF Update - Rachel Cauterruccio said that TNEF's fundraising direct ask letter had gone out and they had been receiving most of their donations through their Paypal account. TNEF has approved funding for software for the English Department that will help all English students at all grade levels. They are working on other ideas for fundraising this year since they won't be able to hold their traditional Winter Gala.

7) Staff Appreciation - Rita Sargent & Julie Arnaudo said they are working on a "Care Package" to give out to the teachers since our school year got cut short last year and they weren't able to do the regular Staff Appreciation week in May. Don Potter suggested a PTO sponsored breakfast or coffee but, at this time, not enough staff are on campus to make that work.

8) Nicole Copeland was nominated to be PTO Secretary. She accepted the nomination and was voted in.

9) It was decided that the Next PTO meeting will have a presentation by the Counseling Department

10) The Meeting was then open for general questions:

Q: When might sports be starting up?

A: They are almost ready to start conditioning for sports but there are a few hold ups, one being the ability to update CPR Certification which has been difficult to do in person. Nicole Copeland shared some info on how to update a cert. In person.

Q: What can I do if my child got an elective that doesn't align with what career they want to pursue?

A: The elective will count toward the credits your child needs to graduate and the classes they need to be eligible for college. Hopefully there will be more interest and computer science will be offered next year.

Comment: Somebody pointed out that there's a link on the PTO's Facebook Page that goes to an online gambling site so that needs to be updated.

11) Meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm by Tiffany Hanna