



Charles C. Bell Elementary PTO

90 Maple Springs Road, Asheville, NC 28805 • bellpto@gmail.com

Meeting Agenda January 2021

Updates:

- Financial Update – See attached budget update.

- Spring virtual fundraising effort ideas:
 - **Family game night** > breakout rooms.
 - Families sign up for whatever game they want to play.
 - Site with free games; PTO staff or teachers could help facilitate the games
 - Pictionary, scavenger hunt, trivia, charades, ISpy,
 - Pay to play
 - **Panda Express** – will give **20%** of proceeds on a specified date
 - Mr. Fusco received a flyer from Papa Johns where they are offering similar.
 - **Fun Pasta** – dried pasta with different themes. They do fundraisers where everyone orders online and it ships to the person who purchases it.
 - **Happy Birthday messages** in family's yards for a child's birthday. Families pay; PTO member puts it out and then picks it up after it is there for a day.
 - **Virtual 50/50 raffle**; spread the word they were doing a 50/50 raffle. Families collected money and sent the amount to PTO through Venmo. They made \$1000 and the winner also won \$1000.
 - **Donut Sale**: Picked up Krispy Kreme donuts and sold them in the car line. Made nearly \$1000 doing this.

- **A days:** 90 students
- **B days:** 90 students
- How can PTO help to support staff and families?
 - Teachers will follow up if any needs present / if they have any ideas once they are back together in the building.

Speaker:

Ms. Herbert, School Counselor

- Mental health of our students
- Everyone needs coping skills and everyone has mental health needs.
- Three greatest needs all human beings have are safety/security, connection and satisfaction/meaning/self-worth.
- The pandemic has effected all of these needs for both children and adults.
- Anxiety and depression are much higher.
- What can we do /what are we doing?
 - Social emotional learning needs to be highlighted
 - Class check ins
 - Ms. Herbert is jumping on to Zooms.
 - Vocabulary and awareness of feelings – zones of regulation (colors connected to feelings).
 - Teach the hand brain model – when our body and brain notice that things have changed and our brain feels we are in danger, the amygdala causes us to “flip our lid.” The goal is to have the upstairs and downstairs brain balanced and connected. How to bring brains back online and balanced.
 - Press against a wall, take a sip of water, etc.
 - Use connection – help them feel safe through that connection.

- Calm spots / calm corner – provides places for them to go to take a break.

Mr. Fusco

- Return to learn updates available at this time: a lot of focus on 2/15 to return to the hybrid model. This will be impacted by the distribution of the vaccine; ACRHS will be a mass distribution center.
- There has been talk of other high schools also being a distribution site.
- Buncombe county government's goal is for 4000 people a day to get to herd immunity.
- School nurses are being trained to give COVID tests. Currently working through barriers so that this will be able to be possible.
- Tuesdays 11-12:30: Cohorts A and B book check out in the cafeteria
- Wednesdays 11-12:30: will be Cohorts C
- 2020-2021 Teacher of the year: Laura Podraza
- 2020-2021 Assistant Teacher of the Year: Jennifer Boyce
- Zoom Issues: Kids have the ability to start a zoom meeting within zoom. They have the ability to begin a chat without any adult oversight which can go dramatically awry quickly. Students should not be on a student initiated chat; they should be on teacher initiated chats where it is safe. The Zoom app can be added to a phone and some students are utilizing it as a chat method. Just be watchful.
- Covid Dashboard: 2 cases of Covid at Bell even though they are not present in the building. It still has to be recorded on the dashboard because they are enrolled there.

Next Steps:

- **HHP to set up Venmo**

Next Meeting Date / Time: February 18th, 2021 @ 6 p.m.