

Monday, September 24, 2018

Haley SPC Meeting Notes

17 parents in attendance (representing K1-8) plus Mary Blanchard and Liz Sherva (Co-Chairs) and Molly Lawless (Secretary)

Agenda

- **Goals of the SPC for the 2018-19 school year**
 - The Haley has a strong history of parent involvement. There is a generational shift happening. Last year we raised the money needed, but it was harder to engage.
 - The SPC tends to meet monthly, create community events, does a lot of fundraising. Most of what SPC has done is history of SPARK experiences (experiential learning). 30K needs to be raised by us to keep the Haley going the way it has been.
- **Friends of the Haley Nonprofit Organization update**
 - Friends of the Haley is a nonprofit. This is where money is held. Principal Kathleen Sullivan, community members, SPC reps.
 - Distributes tax receipts, must spend all moneys it raises.
 - Changes to the organization: closed SPC account, there is only 501-3C account for nonprofit. This is cleaner money-wise. We can put all money we raise into nonprofit account.
- **Governing Board background/update** (Pilot Schools have governing boards instead of site councils)
 - Includes Mrs. Sullivan, staff, some teachers, community members.
 - They look at by-laws that govern school and board. Development, looking at raising money. Inclusive ways to do outreach. Connect with Parent Council. Make decisions about school and future of school. You can see how teachers talk about instructions and general practice around instruction. Insight into the interviewing process of teachers.
 - Will be working on school structure this year (K-8 model or a change? etc)
 - Parent question: is there a possibility school won't go to 8th? Most likely any changes to the model is 2-4 years down the road, ideally partnering to feed to another school that is also inclusion. Mrs. Sullivan says there will be a lot of surveys, wants as much parental input as possibility. Superintendent Perille is kicking off an engagement process with recommendations coming Dec 19.
 - Parent question: 10K grant/Patriots: Was this a grant the SPC applied for? No, Dairy Board health initiative.

- Parent question: Is Amazon Smile a fundraising possibility? We are in the (lengthy) process. Need to change by-laws. Non-profit status type needs to be declared. Cannot declare until lawyer review.

- **2018-19 Budget information**

Handout: Where the money we raised came from last year.

- 1. **The Spring Spectacular**

- Hugely important. It has been going on for at least ten years. Live and silent auction, BBQ, music. Open to community. Requires expensive software, lots of staffing, donation solicitation.
 - SPC co-chairs usually run it. We are at a crossroads. Will it go on the way it has? If so, we need new leaders to step up. Alternatively, will it be a smaller similar event with lower pressure fundraising goals.
 - If Spring Spectacular is going to happen people need to come forward and talk to Mary about taking over. Jen Valenzuela has been the other point person. There's a lot to learn. Perhaps we can diffuse the work? Someone needs to be invested in learning it and how it works.
 - How can we ramp up other events over the year so there's not so much pressure on the Spring Social?
 - Parent: Spring Spectacular is a lot of work but a great gathering and event. People spend a lot of money.
 - Parent: accessibility of the event is extremely important. You can come without spending money. Free and open to the community.
 - Discussion of expensive software needed for Spring Spectacular auction: 1-year license. Can it be used at another event to get more out of investment?

- 2. **Parent-Teacher Social.** Well-attended event. Held on a Friday night.

- Rebranding the Parent Teacher Social: More robust, bigger venue, more control. Charge to get in, people pay for drinks, potentially make a lot more money. Roslindale Substation or Turtle Swamp Brewery.
 - Pay admission (teachers are free, no kids) trivia, raffles. Opportunity to make several thousand?
 - Date: Friday, November 2. Like the Spring Spectacular an open-to-the-community event.
 - Roslindale Substation would be a free venue, but there are many more asks, more legwork, but a big, great space.
 - We could advertise around Roslindale Village, Parkway Soccer, Keep Roslindale Quirky.
 - Congregational Church, Rental Depot: potential places to get chairs, linens.

- **Increasing parent engagement**

- How do we engage more people in SPC moving forward?
 - Parent: At the Sumner the SPC meetings are bigger, 20-30 people. They become working sessions for these events. Different sections of the room for different concerns/topics.
- Roslindale Village Main Streets has working committees. Do we want something like that? Smaller committees to do the work and use larger SPC meetings to report out or have speakers.
- Parent liaison to SPC from each classroom. "Room Parent" model.

- **Supporting parent and staff connections**

- Room Parent/SPC liaison seems to be a popular idea.

- **Organize Fundraising/Engagement committees for the year**

[Subcommittee signup sheets distributed to get these up-and-running ASAP]

- Roslindale Day Parade
- Election Day Bake Sale
- Room Parent Project
- Book Fair
- Curriculum Night [table will have Box Top display]
- Murals [walls are starting to look rough. How do we invest in structure? Hard to get permissions to "officially" fix walls, etc but doing mural re-painting with a focus on Social Justice - Bethan and another parent know people who can potentially work on/help with this]
- Chocolate Sale
- Speaker Series
- Playground/Outdoor Grounds (playground is moving along but it'll be awhile before we'll have a need to convene over that)

Other SPC updates

- Yolanda Wilcox-Gonzalez is creating a Google-based website for the SPC. She will work behind the scenes with tech concerns.
 - Parent: There is a Communications person (social media, handouts) on the Parent Council as well as Secretary at Sumner, is this a possibility here?

Next meeting: October 22

Upcoming Events:

Thursday 9/27 Curriculum Night

Friday 9/28 Green Up Day

Friday 11/2 Parent Teacher Social

Sunday 10/14 Roslindale Day Parade

Tuesday 11/6 Election Day Bake Sale

Questions? Contact SPC team at haleyparentcouncil@gmail.com
Mary Blanchard and Liz Sherva, co-chairs