

ROLES Community Experience Q & A
August 18, 2020 General Meeting Minutes

Date, Time, and Location: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm via Google Meet.

- I. **Meeting called to order by** Amy Pollard, PTO president, at 6:00 p.m.
- II. **Introductions:**
 - a. Amy Pollard introduces self and PTO Officers.
 - b. Mike Mullen introduces self and provides brief personal and work history.
- III. **Updates from Mike Mullen:**
 - a. **Staff:**
 - i. Emily Weiss: Administrative Assistant
 - ii. Katie Popp: Kindergarten – Main Building
 - iii. Kayla Buser: 1st Grade – Main Building
 - iv. Cindy Raimer: 2nd Grade - Yurt
 - v. Emily Hilgendorf: 3rd Grade – Classroom next to yurts
 - vi. Walter Sams: 4th/5th Grade – Yurt
 - vii. Paras were interviewed today
 - b. **Physical School Progress:**
 - i. Everything moved into classrooms today
 - ii. Painting next week: Need Volunteers
 - c. **School Programs:**
 - i. Bloomz: Possible program for communication (daily, teachers and parents, and PTO)
 - ii. IXL: Possible program for virtual education when needed.
 - d. **Dates to Remember:**
 - i. 8/24: Virtual Open House 6-:30pm – Meet and Greet Teachers
 - ii. 8/27: Welcome Night 3-7pm – Come in person to meet teacher and see classroom.
 - e. **Virtual Fridays:**
 - i. 1st Two Weeks will be in person, four day weeks (in person on 1st two Fridays). This will help create a foundation and relationships because virtual is more successful if children have social connections.
 - ii. 3rd Week will begin Virtual Fridays
 - iii. Virtual Fridays will start at normal school time and will consist of social emotional learning strategies and activities. Will only be partial day because the purpose of virtual Friday revolves around teachers having time to prepare and plan for virtual education.
 - iv. Teachers are currently taking classes and preparing for virtual plans.
 - f. **Volunteering Opportunities:**
 - i. Please contact the PTO (**roles.pto@gmail.com**) - Feel free to voice any talents or ways you would like to contribute. We appreciate all parents and know there are so many abilities.

- ii. Will need volunteers to help at drop off. Goal is to have 1-3 parents socially distanced with masks on the trail from parking lot to yurt. Purpose is to help ensure children (grades 2-5) are distancing and wearing masks. This will likely not be a long term request, but more while children are getting used to these new adjustments. Volunteering would be Monday through Thursday: 8:20am to 8:40am. PTO will send out more information.

g. **Parent Questions:**

- i. **Monica Ammerman:** How are “symptoms” Defined in the health protocol? Can a student have a cough and attend school? Can a student attend school with a runny nose? If not, Half the student population will be absent throughout most of respiratory season. Allergies are also causes of symptoms so i think this protocol needs to be defined specifically. If a child has to stay home for “symptoms” (Eg our daughter, Claire, had a cough for 3 weeks last year), how will that child be instructed remotely?

1. **Please refer to Ozaukee Washington County Health Department:** We will be following all health department recommendations and they have all the information on symptoms and protocols. Please become familiar with these items (<http://www.washozwi.gov/Services/Communicable-Disease/COVID-19-School-Guidance>)
2. If children are sick, teacher will be responsible for maintaining that education. The virtual Fridays will help teachers prep for providing this virtual instruction if needed.

- ii. **Lindsey Lew:** A question about gear that might be needed. I see that the kids are getting an Oaki rain suit to borrow for the year. Besides rain boots, are there other must-haves to get from Oaki?

1. Rain suits run small, so order a size above, however snow suits run average. Also wear shorts under rain suit on warm days, they get hot.
2. Don't dry rain suits, they will lose water proofing ability.
3. Rain pants and jackets from Oaki are nice as well, Bog boots are great. (Bog Sale: <https://www.mkeshoesale.com/>)
4. Boot dryers are a necessity for those wet boots.
5. Quick drying pants and shirts are awesome.
6. PTO Will compile a list of outdoor gear that worked well and gear that didn't work well last year.
7. Bento Boxes are great as well. They do leak between compartments, but not out of the box. Low waste with less wrappers etc. Pack more than you think your child will eat because they eat a lot while hiking.

- iii. **Elizabeth Clark:** If we have multiple kids and one student needs to stay home do we need to keep the other home?

1. No, but monitor the symptoms and do health checks to make that decision. Monitor temperature and be cautious. Don't go to big gatherings, have small social circles, in order to keep ROLES running. We could be only school is state that is still running if we keep these safe skills.

- iv. **Kat:** Are the kids spaced six feet apart in the indoor classrooms?
 1. Yes, with a para in every classroom. We are able to split classes so each teacher/para has 8 or 9 students in space if needed. But hope to be outside mostly.
- v. **Elizabeth Clark:** Are we allowed to carpool with kids from the same class? If so is this a problem if we have children in multiple classes?
 1. The hard part is social distancing in a confined space. If you're able to social distance that's ideal. Best to keep them separated.
- vi. **Brielle Pauli:** Are we to follow nut free for sending snacks/lunches?
 1. Usually don't know until the teachers have all of the allergy information. Will depend on each classroom.
- vii. **Courtney Finn:** Will we get the bento boxes on the welcome day or on the first day of school?
 1. You will get them at the welcome day. You will also get Oakiwear for eligible grade levels.
- viii. **Monica Ammerman:** Don't masks work?
 1. Based on research masks work. Recommendation of tight knit cotton double layer. Neck gaiters are not as effective. Tape on top of masks for those with glasses, wash glasses with shaving cream. Always have children bring more than one mask.
- ix. **Anna Angell:** I was late to the meeting. Are we bringing hand sanitizer? The school? Or only hand washing? So it's methanol free hand sanitizer?
 1. School will provide handwashing and sanitizer so no need to bring it. Will be deep cleaning before school and cleaning daily.
 2. Anna: Some hand sanitizers are on a toxic list and several sanitizers coming from Mexico sold at reputable stores are harmful for adults and children. Some don't even list Methanol but it isn't safe and people have been in hospitals due to this chemical.
 3. Mike: Been guided by RNC due to summer programs. So please send to me if you have any literature. Very good to know and research.
 4. Anna: Parents could help bring sanitizer as a school supply as well. Parents can put a few diaper wipes in a ziplock bag and pump a squirt of soap in there and wipe with those throughout the day.
 5. https://www.ewg.org/skindeep/browse/category/hand_sanitizer/
- x. **Lindsey Lew:** Is there a good warm drink thermos that you recommend?
 1. Thermos, lunch bot

h. Last Words from Mike

- i. We will be creating our identity with your support and communicate it out: We need ROLES ambassadors, parents and students are critical for that. Everyone should understand mission and values and be able to communicate those.
- ii. When you don't create a message, someone else creates it for you, so it's critical that we create the message. Because if children are with friends and their friends ask what they do, students should be able to communicate that. One of my mission, is creating a communication to community.

- iii. Expect weekly newsletter and communications with PTO and governance council as well. Communicate throughout the week hopefully through Bloomz day to day pieces.
- iv. 3 pillars:
 - 1. Inquiry
 - 2. Nature
 - 3. Community
- v. Need to work together and support each other in this year and it will be great. One goal, safe education for your children.