**Ed Team Meeting**

**Online**

**February 3, 2022 from 3:10-4:10pm**

In attendance: Chris Basten, Ruby Childs, Zachary Fink, Christmas Gainsbrugh, Lauren Harmon, Vanessa Hetzel, Samantha Monk, Mary Sznewaja, TJ Tyagi and Adrienne Williams-McCleskey.

Welcome – Vanessa welcomed everyone to the meeting. She announced that Emily Skala, Art teacher, agreed to take Jessica’s place on the Ed Team. Christmas let us know that she and the art teacher share a position on Ed Team and alternate months to attend. Christmas said she has been attending each month’s meeting temporarily. Emily and Christmas will work it out between them to start swapping months and attend in the future.

Vanessa said the Parent Ed Team - Vanessa, Mary, Ruby and Sam (TJ could not attend) - met twice recently to take a look at the by-laws and the structure of Ed Team. She said she wants to think of the Ed Team as including everyone that wants to volunteer. The Ed Team Board is comprised of:

Adrienne Williams-McClesky – Teacher Co-Chair

Lauren Harmon – K Rep

Zachary Fink – 5th grade Rep

Lynn Dolph – 4th grade Rep

Christmas Gainsbrugh – Special Rep

Emily Skala – Specials Rep

Chris Basten – Principal - Ex-Officio

Vanessa Hetzel – Parent Co Chair

Mary Sznewaja – Treasurer

Sam Monk – Fundraising

Sarah Wu - Secretary

Ruby Childs – 3-5th grade Rep

TJ Tyagi – K-2nd grade Rep

Sarah Wu agreed to begin immediately as Secretary for Ed Team but could not attend today. At a Spring meeting, Ed Team will vote on next year’s Board members. Ed Team is going to go back to voting on important items such as Treasurers Reports, Minutes and decisions to spend larger amounts of money. All parents will be invited to attend Ed Team meetings and a Public Comment section will be on meeting agendas. The Parent Ed Team is looking at how we can break down our jobs to include more volunteer positions. We are creating Committees and determining specific tasks. We hope to have more volunteer positions posted on Help At School to get parents involved. This is an ongoing process that the Parent Ed Team will continue to work on. Sam asked Chris if there are volunteer sign-up sheets at school orientation. Ed Team would like to make sure to have those next Fall.

Public Comment – No other parents were in attendance.

Minutes of the Last Meeting – Minutes of the January 22 meeting were emailed to all Ed Team Board members. The Board voted on accepting the minutes and the motion was passed.

Principal’s Report – Chris

BVSD welcomed a new safety advocate that will be working with High Peaks. He is a former fire fighter and police officer. He will be introduced virtually soon to the staff at a staff meeting.

HP spent most of Tuesday monitoring the police situation at Uni Hill Elementary. He said if the situation had been expanded to HP, it would have been a lookout, which the school has practiced extensively.

Because of the Marshall fire, Chris obtained a waiver for fire drills at HP in January and February. He said the school has already practiced 5 drills.

New hires Danielle Sharkan, Gifted and Talented teacher, May Robinson, academic tutor, and Emily Skala, Art teacher, have all started and settled in.

Chris said COVID remains a heavy load. 9 staff members have been out this year. Amazing subs and flexible staff have allowed HP to get done what needs to get done. Chris said there is so much joy from the kids in the classrooms and that the teachers miss having parent volunteers.

Treasurer’s Report – Mary emailed her report to the Ed Team prior to the meeting.

She said there has been money in the budget for the past two years for Staff Training/Education for Core Knowledge that hasn’t been used.  She asked if there are new teachers who may not have as much background in Core Knowledge that could use this money for Core training. The Ed Team discussed this and no one could remember any Core specific training for teachers in the past. Adrienne and Zach mentioned that Core is built into everything they do at HP. They follow the BVSD curriculum and add pieces of Core to that. It is a challenge to mesh Core knowledge and BVSD standards. The Ed Team concluded this money could be used for any kind of teacher training. Mary also said there is about $2,200 in the budget for “technology” that has not been used yet this year.  The Ed Team teachers and Chris agreed to discuss this at the next Staff Meeting and decide how to use the money.

**Old Business**

Marshall Fire Fundraiser – Over $2,000 of gift cards was donated to each of the two families at High Peaks that lost their homes. Vanessa thanked everyone for making this fundraiser happen. Vanessa said Mary has been in contact with the families and is checking in with them as needs arise. Sam is starting a Meal train for the Logan family. Vanessa asked about Mike Prough and Beth James. The teachers said they are doing okay but it has been hard. She asked the teachers to let Ed Team know if we can help in any way.

Fun Run – Sam

The date for Fun Run is not yet set but should be soon. Sam has the t shirt design ready and asked how she should determine how many to order and what sizes. The teachers thought last year a google spreadsheet was sent to each teacher for sizes and number. Sam said she would send this out. Sam asked how many of last year’s t shirts were left over. Zach said the old t shirts are in the flex space so we could find out. Ed Team discussed how the money raised will be spent. Last year the teachers polled their classes, came up with ten realistic items and then the classes voted on how to spend the money. This is exciting for the kids and gets them involved. Teachers will do this again this year. Chris said he thinks parents will be allowed outside on campus for the Fun Run. Last year, each class did the run in a separate time slot due to covid. Before Covid, there were two running circles going at a time – one for K-2 and one for grades 3-5. The teachers said this way was fun and encouraged more community among the kids. Sam asked how to count how much the kids run this year – number of laps, distance or time? Ed Team said laps are too hard to count and distance is too hard to track so time may be the best measure.

Parking area sign – Chris said he learned that the “staff only” parking signs were put up as part of the traffic mitigation plan for Aurora. He spoke with the principal of BCSIS and he does not know if the parking spots are used by HP or BCSIS staff.

CORE Knowledge – Vanessa mentioned that parents are asking Ed Team about bringing back Core activities that were not able to happen due to Covid. Mary mentioned that these fun projects are often what the kids remember and enjoy most and draw parents and kids to HP. Vanessa said Ed Team recognizes teachers are exhausted and may not be able to do all the Core projects that used to happen due to Covid and catching up in other areas. She said Ed Team would like to help with volunteers when the time comes to help make these fun projects happen. The teachers said in the past, they recruited volunteers themselves for most of the projects.

Yearbook – Mary said the yearbook will be for all grades this year. She is getting other people to help her.

**New Business**

Teacher updates and requests

Christmas presented a 'Valentine Gram' fundraiser that the 4th/5th musicians are excited about. She asked if the Ed Team would pay for the purchase of 50 gnomes. She said the money raised will go to the Marshall Fire fundraiser. The Ed Team agreed to fund this. Lauren said the student council may be able to help too. Christmas also requested $175 for an annual membership to Musicplay and that will be funded.

The teacher breakfast scheduled for Feb 2 was rescheduled to Feb 9 due to the snow day. Vanessa mentioned that Ed Team tried a new process for conference meals and learned it may not be the best. Next year Ed Team hopes to return to a potluck format. There will be a Valentines snack buffet on Feb 14.

Vanessa is working of updating the Ed Team website  <http://www.highpeaksedteam.org/>

The meeting was adjourned.

The next Ed Team meeting will be Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 3:10pm online. The meeting link is <https://meet.google.com/tbp-rydu-bvx>.