

October 13, 2020
Maple PTSA Minutes

6:00-6:30pm Board Meeting

Introduction to PTSA intern Xiru Jian—UW Education/Economics program

Group check in expressing high and low points so far with remote learning.

In attendance:

Sarah Igawa
Tiffany Koyama
Agnes Gomez
Bao Ng
Daisy Barragan
Erica Chau

Gina Englund
Joy Raymond
Lori Heniff
Maria Herman
Nikole DeZao
Pam Chin

Tiffany Koyama
Xiru Jian
Christy Bowman-White
Summer Gallagher

- FEAT: update on fall event planning—no updates at this time. Latest meeting was informational.
- Maple Cares: Team is up and running, receiving donations and continue open communication with office staff/ Robin Lee to determine how funds can be allocated to meet family needs.
- Maple Gear: Do we want to do it? How would we do it? Someone to organize and sort? Pam reporting: some grey and red gear available but mostly at this time black with some sizes available. Quite a bit of gear left at this time. Possibly plan to have sale of Maple gear on site at the next book pick up time.
- Fall into Giving Event--Gina update: letters will be distributed at end of week, virtual ask and requesting donations online. Section of the letter will indicate proceeds to be split between general PTSA fund and Maple Cares effort.
- School Supplies—have been delivered to students. Some students are in need of headphones and requesting stylus. Teachers can use their classroom budgets for stylus pens, but PTSA is looking into purchasing or subsidizing the cost of headphones for students who need them. Might be close to 200 students still needing headphones, still waiting for confirmation from various family outreach groups to determine actual numbers needed.
- MASE: waiting until Winter 2021—Lori providing update. For each class, would need two adults who passed background checks all of the time. Working on logistics for other possible after school enrichment projects. Teachers not as on board at this time volunteering time after school for this effort. Reporting difficulty “getting momentum” with everything going on at this time.
- FREE team (Family Race Equity and Engagement) Meeting monthly to discuss issues of race and equity, issues have come up at school and helping in the background providing support to teachers. Busy group and looking to have more members. 4-5 members currently; want to make sure it is a good group getting a lot of input, sharing and resources.

6:30-7:30pm Community Meeting: Introductions, Introduce 3 Groups, Breakout Rooms

- MAPLE CARES
 - o Facilitators: Sarah, Pam, Summer/Kate/Andrea, Nikki, Nikole
 - o Topics: Maple Cares/Maple Pantry/Winter Coat Drive
 - ** Breakout room notes attached
- COMMUNICATIONS
 - o Facilitators: Erica, Mollie, Bao, Summer G., Linda, Agnes
 - o Topics: Translation, Social Media, Tech Support
 - ** Breakout room notes attached
- FALL EVENTS
 - o Facilitators: Xiru, Joy/Gina, Tiffany, Carmen, Jen, Lori
 - o Topics: Fall Into Giving, Maple Gear, FEAT?
 - ** Breakout room notes attached

Volunteering during school day; different requirements with virtual learning. Volunteer Application process: https://www.seattleschools.org/families_communities/volunteer/volunteer_application_process

\$21 fee for completing the application process. Robin Lee can provide more information if you are interested.

Maple FREE seeking more members

Volunteers needed for Book Pick-up : Thursday, October 15th. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050945abae22a1fe3-book>

Please sign up to volunteer for the book pickup.

Involvement with PTSA

MAPLE Cares team

Maple Pantry in front of school—Also could use more volunteers

Breakout into groups for focused discussion.

Maple Cares Breakout Notes

Updates:

Summer has been assisting families with utility bills at the moment and has been distributing diapers to families. She has made weekly shopping trips to purchase specific food items requested. She is caught up on requests and is trying to connect with families who made requests over the summer but didn't have their requests fulfilled due to low funds.

Andrea has been gathering clothing donations and distributed clothes to one family. She is receiving a large secondhand clothing donation from Tops K-8 and needs to inventory them for future requests.

Ideas/Needs

-We need to find more ways to connect with families- e-mail fliers to teachers? Print fliers to distribute during lunch pickups? Update more frequently in WeChat, WhatsApp and Facebook?

-Keep posting donation requests to Facebook from time to time to raise awareness and engage community members.

-Contact Robin with more clarification about funds available and when/how to use them.
Schedule a short meeting?

-Ask Robin if she has enough coats and coordinate a coat drive if needed.

-Other possible drives- diaper drive, holiday drive, or just purchase gift cards in bulk for families to distribute around holidays. We had discussed the possibility of doing a holiday toy drive but it was mentioned that families would appreciate receiving gift cards to purchase gifts on their own.

-Woodinville food pickups- see if we can get parent volunteers to do pickups on various days of the week. Andrea will try to do a Saturday pickup.

Also, Christy had a video she wanted to share with families that we can send out along with the notes.

Communication Breakout Notes

What we currently have:

- Facebook
- WeChat
- WhatsApp
- Website
- PTSA emails
- School: Emails, occasional phone calls

What is working?

- All above modalities seem to be working and reaching a variety of people. All still necessary and needed.
- Because of all the information from the different sources, it doesn't seem that not having the monthly newsletter has been a detriment.
- Tech troubleshooting by asking questions on Facebook; that has been good to share info/learn together
- Principal emails have been helpful
- Blog helpful but possibly not very visible
- Posts on all 3 platforms
- Translated material; amazing this year.

What is not working? What improvements can be made?

- Having kids at home all the time, things are busier, so it is difficult to keep up with the information.
- Missing the in-person connections.
- Pinning posts to top of Maple FB page about meetings and important info.
- Families not on FB or getting emails; would it be helpful to have a Maple PTSA Twitter account to post the links to the blog?
- Physical bulletin board by the Maple pantry. Using plastic sleeves to protect the sheets/flyers from weather. Nikole can help.
- Very small, but at the top of the website it still says we meet in the staff lounge rather than on Zoom; remember to fix (Bao).

Interpretation/Translation needs:

- Great to have an intern and other volunteers to help with language
- The language-specific chat groups are getting plenty of information; seems adequate

Tech support needs:

- Some students have spotty internet, even though they were previously identified as students who are connected
- Headphones: a definite need.
- Mice: would be great and some students definitely need them.
- Styluses: DonorsChoose possibly (Ms. Herman has an account). Check with Muir on their styluses (are the soft-tipped ones working).
- Creating tech tickets - email laptops@seattleschools.org. The more we create, the better informed the school district will be of what kinds of trouble folks are having with technology.

Fall Events Breakout Notes

Upcoming Fall Events:

- Fall Into Giving happening now until November 20th; direct ask campaign.
 - Family Virtual Zumba classes, Tuesday, October 27th at 6pm & Thursday, October 29th at 3pm. More info coming soon!
 - Maple Chat event to be held on November 19th. Zoom chat with 3 Maple teachers.
- Questions to be submitted ahead of time to teachers to prepare, holding answering session, meant to be a personal and fun session.

Other possible events, anyone at Maple is invited to lead events, Group open to receiving ideas and ideas/support on execution.

Additional events discussed as future possibility in virtual format:

- Virtual Bingo Night
- Beacon Hill Restaurant Night fundraiser
- Virtual Auction or Walk-a-thon

Meeting adjourned.