

# **Middlesex Middle School Executive Board Meeting Agenda**

**January 13, 2021**

Attendees: Raquel Bird, Kerry Coppola, Cori Cronin, Kristen Croker Fiordalis, Kristina Gregory, Elizabeth Hole, Beth Regan, Alyson Johnson, Amy O’Kane, Carol Kennedy, Shelley Sheridan, Liz Ezbiansky, Sarah Muecke, Jennifer Clemow

## **Action Items:**

- Motion to approve minutes of December 9, 2020 Executive Board Meeting
  - Approved by all in attendance

## **Reports of Co-Chairs:**

- Update from Principal (as given by co-chairs; Principal Somers was not in attendance.)
  - Student council is doing a spirit week.
  - MPA proposed a virtual book fair.
  - Teachers are continuing with professional development on Fridays.
  - 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents meeting will be virtual at the end of February.
  - The school newspaper/Dragon will start up soon.
  - Department chair for grades 6-12 discussing options for inauguration and forming framework for discussion.
  - Some board members request more communication. Chairs will forward on requests.
- Budget update – main item is proposed elimination of one FTE Library Media Specialist, replacement with a Library Media Paraprofessional.
- MMS Social Services Panel
  - Cancelled due to the snow.
  - Rescheduled for the end of the month.
  - Coping strategies, addressing mental health issues, bettering routines are some discussion topics.
  - Encourage people to continue to submit questions to tailor discussion. Zoom link will be sent out to registrants.

## **Program Chairs**

- The Social Dilemma screening and parental discussions
  - Two follow-up discussions are scheduled to discuss the screening of The Social Dilemma. The first one is tonight at 8 pm and the second one is tomorrow at 10 am.
  - Parents will be put in groups of 10 with a moderator that will help guide a productive conversation.
  - Scheduled to last 45 minutes to an hour.

- Marli Hayes (YWCA) might put together resources for parents after the breakout sessions.
- Understanding the Teenage Brain; Cristina Young
  - Loosely scheduled virtually in March.

### **Any other Matters**

- Teaching model discussion
  - Co-chairs have heard many opinions about student learning models: There's support for in-person full time, support for remaining hybrid, support for fully remote. The MPA represents all MMS parents and all viewpoints.
  - Co-chairs have discussed MPA role with CDSP. MPA by-laws state the MPA shall not seek to direct the administrative activities of the school or its policies.
  - MPA is a neutral organization. We act as facilitators and can advocate for more communication.
  - If parents have questions we can send them up the chain of command and get them answers.
- Middlesex PTO website update
  - Include in MPN and Friday facts that the new URL is up and running.
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade promotion
  - Brainstorm some ideas depending on the climate in June.
  - Out on the field? Small groups receiving their diplomas? By team?
  - Try thinking beyond the drive-thru.
- Next year's slate
  - Start sending out emails and making phone calls about openings for next year at the end of this month.

### **Adjournment**