

City High-Middle PTSA (PTCC)
ZOOM Meeting ID# 899-942-10132, Password CityPTSA
Membership Meeting • 7 p.m., May 13, 2020
Virtual Meeting due to EO 2020-21 “Stay Home, Stay Safe”

Prior to Meeting

Please enable audio (members must be able to hear and respond to each other).
Please enable video (if you are comfortable using that feature).
Identify yourself by name each time you speak (especially if video is not enabled).
Meeting presider may utilize the “mute participants” tool so a presenter can be heard.

Draft Minutes

1. **Call to Order, Welcome** - 7:01 pm, webinar format
2. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** - yes
3. **Approval of Current Agenda** (*additions, changes*) - yes
4. **GRPS Administrator Update(s), Q&A** - Mr. Helmholdt, GRPS Communications, addressed submitted questions one by one:
 - a. Plan for credit/no credit - non-seniors' participation in distance learning is their credit/no credit for marking period 3 (in line w/exec order, most people will get credit...it's up to GRPS to make it possible for students, including phone calls to families to see if they need help participating). So far so good on good-faith efforts - most needs have been met. Seniors?
 - b. Expecting continued online learning in summer and fall? Yes, GRPS is preparing for this. State superintendent says prepare for a hybrid approach of some in-person learning and some online.
 - c. Sports - MHSAA is helping our schools prepare for resuming sports as if it will be possible.
 - d. Date/deadline for firm decisions yet to finalize calendar? Negotiations with teachers union going well...tentatively Tues Aug 25 start back to school date.
 - e. Virtual graduation - Dr. Gorman, Interim Superintendent, wants some sort of physical ceremony in addition to virtual, details tbd (Houseman as option). Could include all high schools, together or separate. Helmholdt deep in the planning of the virtual ceremony.
 - f. Grading: Want to get back to more traditional grading & credits asap, but hybrid probable for now.
 - g. End of summer activities like band camp, sports training: Decisions are being sought with Ms Malone (fine arts) and Mr Johnson (sports). TBD
 - h. What does hybrid learning approach mean? Physical, in-person learning in the bldg with limited capacity (# of students), staggered days and hours with planned cleaning time in between morning and afternoon shifts/sessions. GRPS looking into this: would our bldg need to take everyone's temperature? Plus online learning. KISD and GRPS are collaborating, running thru lots of possible scenarios.
 - i. Budget cuts: Facing a \$500-2000 per pupil CUT in state funding, right

when we probably need MORE staff. Usual state funding is \$8K per pupil, so this means a \$30M shortfall in GRPS budget for next year. Also expecting a prorated cut for this school year, but may not know till Sept. Federal stimulus not nearly enough to cover the shortfall. The word from state government is that K-12 and safety/police are “last on the chopping block” but it’s not looking good. Be prepared for cuts. Our GR delegation to the state congress “loves GRPS” and will fight for us.

- j. Summer cut short? Not yet, and probably not.
- k. Would Aug. 3 be a reasonable time to have most decisions made? Mr. Huppert and Mr Helmholdt say Aug. 1 seems reasonable. Start looking for firmer info then.
- l. Online learning feedback: One-on-one student/teacher time - can it be increased? They’ll be piloting some ideas over summer school. Want to increase and put more emphasis here. Will need teacher buy-in, secure sessions, etc.
- m. Teacher surveys - many teachers are enjoying the increased connections and collaboration when students are willing to participate, using Seesaw, Google classroom. Even the teachers who were hesitant about tech stuff are enjoying it more than they expected.
- n. More internet access? Working with the Mayor and City Manager. Procured large private donations for tech for current distance learning, including Fred Keller (Cascade Engineering). He also has big visions for tech and schools in the future. GRPS working hard on equitable access to the internet, digital literacy (big gap for some families), and more. In the meantime paper packets were sent out last week to those who need them.
- o. Participation in online teaching/learning among GRPS high schools is around 90% so far.

5. City Administrator Update - Mr. Huppert and Ms. Vandervliet

- a. Caps & gowns were handed out, Senior banner put up, GRPS seniors Seniors have done great: college acceptances include 16 UofM, 1 UChicago, 1 Brown, 1 Johns Hopkins, 1 Gates Scholar (1st ever!). Vals and Sals - 1/5 of the sr class qualifies (4.0 non-weighted GPA) before final grades. June 3, 4, 5 virtual graduation with some prerecorded parts.
- b. Senior celebration coming together - awards, performances
- c. Google classroom for all of us - parents can use their student’s id to check in. M-Th admins record a video for kids. Look for a series of info requests about students/seniors to highlight what students are up to.
- d. Watch your email on Fridays for Ms Albin’s new newsletter.
- e. By the end of May City admin has the goal of calling to check in with all City families on how distance learning is going. How many families is that? (Paula Foley here - I’m guessing about 600 calls!)

6. Executive Board updates

- a. MI PTA advice sought on getting senior party money to seniors (that’s what the parent/senior cmte voted to do with the money they raised). We’ll craft a solution that meets our non-profit guidelines for a member vote. Maybe 110 COVID-19 scholarships? Want to have it solved and checks prepared by graduation.

- b. Hovenkamp scholarship - we'll have a winner by graduation. Online applications welcome till the end of May.
- 7. Questions -**
 - a. CAS hours - students have info. Covid-19 change: CAS not needed for Spring deadline. Not mandatory for end of the year.
 - b. Auction - tbd, maybe online?
 - c. Zoom meeting instead of webinar for next time? Yes, members preferred Zoom meeting.
- 8. Need for additional PTSA meeting? -** we'll poll/email next week to see if members want another meeting. Probably yes.
- 9. Adjournment - 8:00pm**

Other info:

National PTA

- i. Check out their website for current legislative updates/advocacy opportunities; resources for families and educators (including a podcast, social and emotional support links, tips for at-home education, healthy habits; the latest COVID-19 News & Guidance
- ii. <https://www.pta.org/home/family-resources/coronavirus-information>

MI PTA

- iii. The MI PTA website also has resources for communities, parents, students and social and emotional wellness
- iv. <https://www.michiganpta.org/covid-19-resources-for-families.html>

GRPS

- v. Visit their website for information regarding the recent GRPS Board of Ed Meeting, Distance Learning Plans and other resources available to families including grab and go meal sites
- vi. <https://www.grps.org/>

Other Resources

- vii. <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/>
- viii. <https://www.accesskent.com/Health/>
- ix. <https://www.headspace.com/mi>
- x. <https://www.grandrapidscenterformindfulness.com/free-online-meditations/>