



# Steller Parent Group 11/10/2020

Meeting Minutes (Approved 12/08/2020)

Call to Order at 6:05 pm.

## **Greetings and Introductions.**

### **Attendees.**

Angie Southwould.  
Annette Johansen.  
Brandon Brooks.  
Dave Baines.  
Dee Dee Zobian. ddzobian@gmail.com.  
Donna Brechan.  
Eli Pelletier. 21ep.cis@gmail.com.  
Elizabeth King.  
Holly Rinehart. hollyloves2@gmail.com.  
Janet Curran. janetcurran@hotmail.com.  
John Ryan.  
Jonathan Halpern.  
Kary Bashford-Blumer.  
Kate Hopewell. kateshoes@yahoo.com.  
Kim.  
Kirsten Tschofer-Pelletier.  
Marianne Pedersen.  
Reed Whitmore.  
Rebecca Gerik.  
Simone Sanders.  
Stacie Morris.  
Yereth Rosen.

## **Approval of Agenda.**

Click [here](#) to view November Agenda.

MOTION: Approve November agenda as distributed.

Motion By: Elizabeth.

Second By: Brandon.

9 in favor. 0 opposed. Motion approved.

### **Approval of Minutes.**

Click [here](#) to view October Minutes.

MOTION: Approve October minutes as posted.

Motion By: Reed.

Second By: Kate.

11 in favor. 0 opposed. Motion approved.

### **Funding Requests.**

[Hand Sanitizer Pumps](#) by Reed Whitmore. Would like to purchase and install touchless hand sanitizer stations with foot pedal in foyer near the school entrance. Cost is \$139.99 each plus \$19.84 for shipping. Request to purchase x2 for a total cost of \$319.66.

Discussion. School is already slated to purchase large sanitizer jugs; that cost is not being considered for this request. Question regarding if this purchase oversteps any boundaries and is something that should be bought by the district. Reed will look into this and rescind the request if ASD has a problem with the purchase. Consideration for additional purchases.

MOTION: Purchase 2x Hand Sanitizer Pump Stations for \$320.00.

Motion By: Holly.

Second By: Elizabeth.

MOTION AMENDMENT: Purchase 4x Hand Sanitizer Pump Stations for \$640.00.

Motion By: Holly

Second By: Elizabeth

11 in favor. 0 opposed. Motion approved.

Request for purchase from Amazon using Amazon Smiles and to purchase x2 to begin to assure quality and utility before purchasing the second x2.

[Student Nutrition](#) by Annette Johansen, school nurse. Once students return in-person, since there will be no lunch hour, Annette and Marianne will recommend that students bring a snack. The school would like to have snacks available for students experiencing food insecurity or who forget to bring something to eat. Approximately 25% of Steller students qualify for free or reduced lunch. Would like to have approximately 20 snacks per day available for 40 days (one quarter) at \$2.00 per snack for a total cost of \$1600.

Discussion. Question about ASD announcement to provide free lunches to all students. Steller students will not have lunches provided by ASD, because they are providing free lunches only to schools that already have a meal program. Based on federal regulations. Question if there's something parents can do to help change this. Parental support for this! Reed will speak to head of food services and check if there's anything that can be done about this.

MOTION: Purchase up to \$1600 in snacks to provide to students upon school re-entry.

Motion By: Holly.

Second By: Jonathan.

12 in favor. 0 opposed. Motion approved.

Request to purchase in smaller amounts, rather than all at once.

## **Reports.**

### Principal Report.

Reed reporting.

Classroom Observations. Teachers have had multiple in-service days. Reed has watched all Steller teachers develop and grow throughout this process and work harder than he's ever seen to adapt to this new format. Highly commends all staff and students!

In-Person Return. Planned return for Pre-K to 2 scheduled for 11/16 has been postponed. Steller will return when high schools return. Principals believe start day will get pushed back from initial plan of January 4. Many would like to see the return aligned with a quarter start, which might mean start of 4th Quarter. New ASD protocols will be released mid-November. Rules will be clear for when return occurs. When high schools return, Steller families will have the choice to continue the current model of attending Steller classes virtually, even day-by-day.

Question about how teachers will balance in-person students with online students. Each teacher is working on a plan. One model is that the zoom students will attend at the same time as in-class students and one person will be assigned to assist teacher with online student interactions and ensure questions are being addressed. One model is that the teacher will have different attention focuses between online and in-class students on different days of the week. There are several great models being developed that best fit teachers and class subjects.

Question about halting school all together after Thanksgiving until end of the calendar year then adding that additional time at the end of the school year. This was a thought introduced by a speaker at the ASD School Board Meeting; there is no current action regarding this idea.

### Staff Report.

Becky and Simone reporting.

In-Service Days. Teachers have three recent/coming in-service days on 10/23, 11/03, and 11/11. Coordinating staff concerns in a document to be submitted to the district. Working on schedule

for next quarter with plan to have students register on 12/09. Teachers are training teachers in new learning formats to improve online instruction and student engagement. One new tool being introduced in PearDeck. Teachers are improving current classroom teaching strategies and simultaneously creating plans for a hybrid teaching approach that will accommodate the Steller plan to offer both in-person and online options for course attendance.

Homework Club. Four days a week. Great for socialization as well as the benefit of getting homework done. Students who are interested should contact their advisor.

Quarter. Halfway through this grading period.

Parent concerns? Would like to ensure the option remains for students to continue school from home after ASD high school students return to school. Steller has some flexibility, but teachers will return and Steller will open for in-person classes when the other ASD schools return. Still, Steller students will have the option to continue working classes online. Concern regarding safety with ensuring sufficient inventory of personal protective equipment (PPE) and hand sanitizer and contact tracing. Question about school tours for next year incoming 7th graders. May have to host "town hall" virtual tours. Class lengths. Current class length is 90-minutes. Most classes do not have active teaching for the entire period, but rather instruction up-front with project/work time given afterwards. This structure is closely aligned with "normal" block classes (pre-covid). ASD may remove the Wednesday "day-off". Suggestion to provide as much information as possible to parents and not worry about over-sharing information.

#### Student Report.

Eli reporting.

Game Club. New club proposal was approved and first meeting was this past Monday.

Op Group. Good participation. Working on yearbook and seeing success with new Instagram account: @steller\_s\_official. Instagram is being used to communicate information and build community, as well as collect photos to use for the yearbook. Since school-wide picture day is unlikely, group will ask each student to submit personal portrait photos via Instagram or submit via email to [opgsml@gmail.com](mailto:opgsml@gmail.com) or [yearbookstellersecondary@gmail.com](mailto:yearbookstellersecondary@gmail.com). Will start sharing out the weekly report provided in advisory and Parent Group will post to the Flash. Marianne will distribute direct email regarding yearbook, to ensure all students get the news.

Jonathan reporting as Parent Group representative to Op Group. Great working with these students.

National Honors Society. Ryan is organizing and developing it with great ideas. There's a virtual national meeting that students are being encouraged to attend. The emphasis of service has focused on homework assistance (Homework Club) and food insecurity. Would also like to lead some social-emotional activities with students and share resources for depression and other mental concerns. Meet every Tuesday at 1:30 pm. Request to have a member provide a write-up about the group for sharing information with the school community.

### Treasurer Report.

Kirsten reporting for Brandon.

Distributed Statement of Financial Position as of 11/10.

Bank balance from 11/10: \$26027.43.

Equity available for allocation from 11/10: \$16683.44.

Click [here](#) to view Treasurer Report.

MOTION: Approve November Treasurer Report as distributed.

Motion By: Jonathan.

Second By: Heidi Baines.

10 in favor. 0 opposed. Motion approved.

### Chair Report.

Kirsten reporting.

Halloween Party. 50 registered and 37 attended. Breakout room for music and dancing.

Breakout room with Kahoot Steller trivia game. Breakout room with students playing Among Us.

Staff Appreciation. Approved at last meeting. Due to a generous parent donation, staff was able to select two gift options. Gifts are organized and ready for distribution to staff.

Banner. Approved at last meeting. Has been created and installed at the school.

Website. The Parent Group-managed school website, <https://www.stellerschool712.org/>, is being updated to better align with and eliminate duplication from the ASD school website, <https://www.asdk12.org/steller>. Focus is on information for students and parents with the ability to collect family donations. Click [here](#) for more details on the changes!

Flash. The Flash is our Parent Group news distribution. PLEASE RE-SUBSCRIBE to remain on this mailing list. Staff, students, families, and anyone interested in receiving Steller information is welcome to join. Aiming for distribution on Mondays and Thursdays, with additional messages as needed.

Directory. Parent Group is trying out a new school directory app this year:

<https://steller.ptboard.com/>. Requires a school code to join; the code will be distributed in an email from the school. Requires a user account and registration. Selection can be made to share information with others in the Steller community, otherwise, information is available only to system administrators. The information accessed here is for personal use only. Inappropriate use will result in loss of access. Request to remove information if student leaves the school. Information can be found via searches by name or advisory. Mobile app is available. Parent Group will track usage and make determination on whether to pay \$49/annually and continue.

Budget. For 2020-21 school year. Categorized under: Operational Expenses \$1500, School Hosted Events \$2000, Steller Parent Group Hosted Events \$1500. Grants \$6000.

MOTION: Approved 2020-21 Budget as submitted.

Motion By: Heidi.

Second By: Holly.

12 in favor. 0 opposed. Motion approved.

Giving Tuesday. Would like to promote this as an opportunity for the Steller community to stand together by showing acts of kindness and generosity in our broader community. Campaign lasts 11/11 to 12/01. Submit #StellerGives photos to [opgsml@gmail.com](mailto:opgsml@gmail.com). Discussion. Great idea! Would be a nice community builder if people submitted others. Click [here](#) for details.

### **New Business.**

None.

### **Comments.**

Calendar. No School. 11/11 and Thanksgiving Break 11/26-27.

### **Future Parent Group Meeting Dates.**

Tuesday, December 8 at 6:00 pm.

Adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Minutes recorded by Angie Southwould.

Click [here](#) to view Meeting Presentation.