**Wilton Special Education Parent Teacher Association**

**MEETING Minutes – January 13, 2021**

**7:00- 8:30 pm**

* Welcome and Introductions
* President Report – Kara Berghaus
  + Collaboration with school PTA Presidents
  + SEL Support and Outreach
    - Middlebrook did a Warrior Reach out effort
* Secretary Report – Rosalie Witt
  + Approve September Minutes
    - Motion to approve the SEPTA 2020-2021- Lisa Strasser
    - Second – Kara Berghaus
  + Approve the 2020-2021 Budget
* Treasurer Report – Debra Eggleston
  + Current: $17,000
  + Turnover Shop – donation received for 2021 - $5000
  + Carry over of $12,000
  + Focus on programming and Gifts and Grants
  + Motion to approve the SEPTA 2020-2021- Donna Peterson
  + Second- Debra Eggleston
* Committees Reports
  + Fundraising and Grants – Lori Fusco
    - Gift and Grants –
      * Betsy Caridi - MB
        + Materials to help with science focus
      * Jacqueline Scaringella – scholastic subscription – impacted 30 children
      * Miller-Driscoll
        + Boom Learning – Learning management platform
        + Partner with MD PTA
        + Benefit approximately 50 children
        + $384 is the SEPTA portion
  + Community and Family Events – Kara Berghaus
    - Current Brainstorming Ideas for Programming:
      * Students: Social connection and enrichment (Hangout Spot, Sensory Art)
      * Art Enrichment to foster social connections
        + Partner with Trackside
    - Upcoming Winter:
      * New Families: Virtual Coffee dates 1/26 and 1/28.
        + Welcome bags are still being used
        + Welcome ideas about how to best reach out to new families
        + Transition coffees between schools
        + Communication to all school – flyer about SEPTA
        + Birth to Three agencies that serve Wilton – Bernadette Hess
      * Upcoming speaker, Dr Jane Brown: 1/21/21 at 10am: Post High School and College Planning for Students on the Spectrum:  Co-sponsor with SPEDNET and Darien SEPAC
* Membership- Donna Peterson
  + Mobile Arq/Updates and discuss strategies for engagement
  + Current members – 73 members
    - 6 teachers – lower number that last year
    - Make sure teachers know about gifts and grants- they need to be members to qualify for the gifts and grants program
    - Police department partnership – form about families (opt in format)
    - Trackside program – sibling support group
* Communication -Lisa Strasser and MB Web Design Team, Newsletter
  + Web Site, FB Page, newsletter
  + Two students from Middlebrook gave us updates to our website
    - Updates
      * Mobile friendly
      * Membership button goes right to email
      * Mobile Arq donation button
      * Executive Board positions
      * Information for future and past meetings recordings

**\*\*\*Administrative Update - Andrea Leonardi (Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Student Services\*\*\***

* Special Ed survey going out on Friday until the 29th
  + IEP and 504 families
  + Survey to teachers after family’s survey
  + February parent forum will be the place to review the result
  + Published report to BOE
* Budget
  + Focused on staffing to meet the needs of students
    - Remainder of pandemic and then recovery
* Preparing for transitions across the district
  + Some in-person options as weather gets warmer
* Planning for ESY – received good feedback. Keeping the program format similar to last year.
* Pending parent forums
* Spring Diversity and Inclusion Planning:
  + Bee Kind Campaign-
    - Child friendly masks and bracelets for MD and CM
    - Collaboration with HS TIMS Club- Joy Lawrence
    - February planning session – all welcome to participate
* School Representatives update
  + Miller Driscoll – Kara Berghaus
  + Cider Mill -Rosalie Witt
  + Middlebrook -Kara Berghaus
  + High School – Donna Peterson

**Future Planning:**

Board Member Succession plans

Teacher Scholarship 2021-2022

Fundraising:

Discuss plans: Library Learning Commons- Diversity and Inclusion