



**Vestal District Council**  
**March 17, 2021**

**Present:** Amy MacDonald, Becky Kaiven, Kate Lynch, Krista Soltis, Mark Browning, Marla French Mehreen Khan, and Sheri Esteban-Elie.

**Minutes:** February minutes were approved.

**President's/Treasurer's Report:**

- Our current account balance is \$1,875.75.
- We will be awarding one High School scholarship this year for \$1,000.
- We will use \$100 towards getting gifts for the Transportation Department.
- The middle school will be in charge of hosting any activity or event related to the District Council dinner for the current school year.

**Administration: (Regina Felice)**

- The Federal Stimulus Package was approved.
- The elementary school surveys regarding opening schools four days a week are in; 12% prefer to continue learning remotely, 80% plan to attend in-person, and 55% will require transportation.
- The tentative date to start 4 days of in-person instruction for elementary students is March 29, contingent on the arrival of the plastic barriers.
- The survey for secondary school parents will be sent out by the end of this week.

**Board of Education: (Mark Browning)**

- All optional NY State regents exams are going to be canceled.
- The New York State Education Department submitted federal waiver requests related to the state assessment.
- Grades 3-8 testing will be downsized.
- The maximum allowable increase in the tax levy is 1.27% over last year.
- Current revenue/expenditure for next year shows an \$893,044 gap.
- The Voice of the Public is back at the board meetings. Questions and concerns can be submitted via Zoom.

**Member Unit Reports:**

**AFRICAN ROAD: (Marla French)**

- The virtual Science Fair is on March 22. Students will use an interactive website to participate.
- Our virtual Book Fair is coming up in May.
- Ms. Melissa Rosa is holding Mindfulness Mondays for our ARE families.

**CLAYTON AVENUE: (Krista Soltis)**

- We are working on including the pictures of all the remote students in the Yearbook.
- Students from the winning classes in the Fund Run received a sub factory coupon.
- The Talent Show and Bingo Night are canceled.

**GLENWOOD ELEMENTARY: (Aimee Szwalla)**

- The Glenwood Talent Show is coming up.

**TIOGA HILLS: (Jessica Zwierzynski/ Becky Kaiven)**

- We will have a Virtual Trivia Night with AP Entertainment for all our families on Friday.
- Our virtual Book Fair is in May.
- One School, One Book starts in April. Students will read *A Boy called Bat*.

**VESTAL HILLS: (Sue Wendell)**

- No Report

**VESTAL MIDDLE SCHOOL: (Amy MacDonald/Marla French)**

- Walmart donated a large number of school supplies. The supplies will be distributed to all the schools that may need them.
- We are trying to have all the Pantry Power Pack Program beneficiaries get school supplies from us in August.
- Jane Hashey is the interim VMS principal. She will continue through the end of the school year.
- Planning is underway for an eighth-grade graduation party with all safety measures in place.
- The virtual VMS musical will be held next weekend.

**VESTAL HIGH SCHOOL: (Kate Lynch/Sheri Esteban-Elie)**

- We are planning to have a Staff Appreciation Luncheon.
- The All-Nighter committee is fundraising and planning for the end-of-the-year party.
- We are co-sponsoring two Blood Drives at the end of April.
- Four Vestal High School seniors have qualified as finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program.
- Our students received top honors at the Broome County Arts Council's Emerging Artists Competition.
- Fall sports are in full swing.
- They have started credit recovery programs at the high school for students failing in one or more classes.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- None

<b>Officers for 2020-21: President:</b>	<b>Amy MacDonald</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Kate Lynch</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Mehreen Khan</b>

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.