



## Roy Cloud School - 2018-2019 School Year

### PTO Board Vote By Email October 20-21, 2018

#### Introduction – Yvonne Sarles

- On October 20, 2018 at 5:17pm, PTO board President Yvonne Sarles emailed the full 29-person PTO Board about the need to consider and vote by 8pm October 21, 2018. Administration officials were not copied or included in the request.
- For a listing of the PTO Board Members as of October 20, 2018, please see Appendix 1.

#### Issue Before the Board - Yvonne Sarles, Jim Balestieri, Amy Truesdale

- A group of kindergarten parents have expressed concern regarding the kindergarten class sizes at Roy Cloud: each class has 29 students.
- The conclusion reached between the group of concerned kindergarten parents, administration, and all 3 kindergarten teachers is to provide one aide for 3 hours/day for 5 days in each kindergarten classroom, at a total cost of \$36,000.
- Additional discussion items included:
  - Adding a new Kindergarten class (determined to be cost and space prohibitive)
  - Hiring one 6+ hour aide to share time between the three kindergarten classrooms (not as efficient, more of a hindrance and teachers do not prefer, as the aide would not be in every classroom during the optimal time)
  - Hiring three aides at 2 hours each, one for each classroom. *However, we have since learned from the district that contractually 3 hours is the minimum time an aide may work.*
- The group of concerned Kindergarten parents are willing to pay for the aides.
- Before job posting and hiring can occur, the district office needs the PTO to guarantee funds now in the form of a commitment letter.
- Jim, Amy, and Yvonne have discussed utilizing existing carryover funds included within the 2018-19 budget to pay for the aides. The expectation is that the kinder families will replenish this fund with their increased direct donation, and we will watch the donation trend upward significantly from kinder families once this is announced; direct donations can monitor.
- In order to post for the position as soon as possible, a vote by email is requested, rather than postponing to the next general PTO meeting in November.

- We do not want to accept restricted donations specifically earmarked for kinder aides. This creates additional (undesirable) accounting work for us. More importantly, excess funds that are received and earmarked cannot be used towards other Roy Cloud programs.
- PROS and CONS:
  - PROS: Teachers get support, cohesiveness of community, cultivating a peaceful environment for the students.
  - CONS: Setting a precedent for other grade levels or parent groups, risk of not recovering the full dollar amount, a failed program.

Board Action Requested - Yvonne Sarles

- ACTION NEEDED: Please vote yes OR no by replying to this email. You are voting to guarantee the funds of *up to* \$36,000 for the kinder aide program, which includes hiring 3 aides, each at 3 hours per day, 5 days per week. Please respond only to me with your vote by Sunday, October 21, 8 PM.

Vote Tally - Yvonne Sarles

<b>Yay</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain/No Response</b>
16	9	5

Board-Approved Decision - Yvonne Sarles

- The Board approved to guarantee funds of *up to* \$36,000 for the kinder aide program.
- Some concerns that will be communicated to the Kindergarten classes include:
  - *Replenishing of PTO funds*
  - *Equity to other grades/classes*
  - *Inefficiency of program and time spent by aides in classroom, how will this be better than last time?*
  - *Supporting a non-sustainable program*

## Appendix 1: Roy Cloud PTO Board Members

1. Yvonne Sarles
2. Nancy Mein
3. Dave Cirina
4. Lisa Furtado
5. Katherine Machermer
6. Heidi Von Briel
7. Roger Dettloff
8. Jen Clark
9. Alexandra Dendy
10. Victoria Melamed
11. Alison Williams
12. Robin Bulanti
13. Megan Maxwell-Bey
14. Jon Mayer
15. Amy Truesdale
16. Rochelle Romer
17. Casey Wright
18. Tiffany Gonzalez
19. Mary Redner
20. Jolie Kalvaria
21. Alicia Truby
22. Jim Balestieri
23. Allison Benjamin
24. Marybeth Milionis
25. Janet Scoville
26. Tanya Bachniak
27. Amy Funge
28. Todd Gumbrecht
29. Victoria Spencer-Palmer