

Meeting Summary- March 28, 2022

The meeting was held virtually from 7:00pm-8:00pm.

In attendance:

- Group Organizer- Lauren Galok
- Representing BOE- Ralph Addonizio, Kristen Hodnett
- <u>District Staff</u>- Kerri D'Amico (Allenwood Special Education teacher)
- Parents 6 parents attended

Welcome

Lauren opened the meeting by introducing Megan McCay, SEPAG member and Allenwood PTG President and Ally Blumenthal, SEPAG member and Allenwood Mayfair committee member. The goal of the meeting was to share ideas on how aspects of the Allenwood Mayfair can be potentially adapted to be enjoyed by all elementary students. This is the first year that Mayfair will have a designated sensory- friendly time at the start of the event for children who can benefit from that accommodation.

Introduction

A. What is the Allenwood Mayfair?

Megan gave a brief description of Mayfair. Mayfair is Allenwood's annual carnival-like community event. It has evolved over the years to now include mechanical rides, bounce houses, carnival- style games, prizes, food, and entertainment. Mayfair is Friday, May 20th (rain date Thursday, May 26th) from 5:00-8:00pm, with 5:00-5:30pm reserved as the sensory- friendly portion of the event. The Mayfair committee is planning 10-15 carnival- style games, bounce houses, a trackless train, a mechanical bull, a clown balloon artist, gift basket raffle, and live band. There may also be a dunk tank. Food will also be available for purchase. Ralph Addonizio added that Mayfair predates 1983.

Event Logistics

A. Official name for reserved time and description

Ally shared several wording options prior to the meeting for the Mayfair flyer. The best option was:

"This is reserved for families with children who can benefit from a less crowded and sensory- friendly fair experience. Enjoy all that Mayfair has to offer in a fun and inclusive environment."

B. Who can participate?

Admission to Mayfair will open first to Allenwood students. The event will open to all district elementary students thereafter. The Allenwood PTG will reserve the right to close wristbands sales if event capacity is close to being met. Non- Allenwood students can pick up their wristbands at Will Call.

C. Invitation to the public

Mayfair will be advertised on the Allenwood PTG Facebook page, Allenwood PTG website, school website, and the Coaster. Flyers will also be distributed throughout the community. Additional suggestions were e-backpack and other PTO sites.

D. Adapting event elements

- Lighting, music- no flashing lights and music will be off or kept to a minimum (between 5:00-5:30pm)
- ➤ Wait times, unlimited game chances- every game will have a winner and children can move as close as possible to play games
- Signage for games and rides- signs to be posted containing ride descriptions and directions on how to play games
- Other
 - Plenty of space between games/ activities to prevent crowding
 - Ride/ game pictures with descriptions will be available on the PTG
 website and Facebook page for parents to review prior to the event. An
 event map was also suggested. This will help parents avoid triggers or
 focus on favorite activities
 - The picnic tent outside by the gym was suggested as a quiet place for children to retreat to, if necessary, instead of leaving
 - The school building will be open for bathrooms
 - Children can familiarize themselves with games ahead of the event in PE/ Adaptive PE
 - Volunteers will wear matching shirts so they are easily identifiable
 - Students that participate in Allenwood's Circle of Friends Program to partner with children during the reserved sensory- friendly time

Other Business

No other SEPAG business was discussed at this time.

Announcements

3/31 FREE webinar- Parent Involvement in Special Education: Overview of Rights
Click the link to register- START-EPSD Parent Involvement in Special Education: Overview of
Rights Tickets, Thu, Mar 31, 2022 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite

Parents will learn their right and responsibilities and will gain strategies necessary to be an equal partner in the IEP process. A follow up webinar will be held in April that will review the different sections of an IEP.

Important Links

Wall SEPAG Facebook page- www.facebook.com/groups/1021230828603890/