



EL RANCHO CHARTER SCHOOL PTSA ZOOM MEETING HIGHLIGHTS APRIL 13, 2021

We would like to thank everyone that was able to join us for the PTSA meeting via zoom. We apologize for any inconvenience for having a late start as we were resolving zoom issues. Below are some of the highlights from the meeting.

Parliamentarian – Debbie Reynolds

- For those non PTSA members attending the meeting, per PTSA Bylaws, **“Guest(s) may attend association meetings via a courtesy seat provided by the president, however a guest who is not a member of the association may not make motions nor participate in discussion, nominations, votes or elections”**.
- There are 50 nominees for the Honorary Service Awards. The committee met last week and reviewed the nominations. HSA will be presented at the May meeting.

Principals’ Report – Mrs. Walker

Current guidelines allow a max capacity of 33% for any event. We have 589 8th graders (311 are virtual only). It’s not possible to have a traditional in-person graduation since we don’t have the venue to accommodate the 33% capacity requirement to do so safely. We want to be able to allow ALL students (attending and virtual only) to be part of the celebration. The only safe way and to follow the current guidelines is to have a drive through promotion. We are adding a few things this year to recognize the students (i.e. set up a backdrop a week before for families to take pictures during afterschool hours). We plan to make it a positive and exciting event for the students. More info to come once finalized.

Questions for Mrs. Walker

1. If guidelines change to allow a higher % of attendees, will plans change? – **It would depend. We will still need to maintain the 6ft distance guidelines for both students and families. We don’t know whether that will change by then and we need time for planning.**
2. Hasn’t the CDC guidelines changed to 3 feet for students? – **There are different guidelines based on where you live. CDC oversees general guidelines. There are also state and county guidelines. We are required to follow the Orange County Department of Health guidelines. The 3ft. distance is for elementary school students only. Middle and High school guidelines have remained 6ft. whenever possible. We are going to be compliant and continue to follow the guidelines for the safety of our students, staff and families.**
3. Why not do 2-3 promotions to accommodate those that prefer an actual ceremony? – **There’s a lot of planning involved. Need consider staffing as well. We’re just not equipped to do multiply events. If we’re going to do one it will be one event and have everyone participate.**

4. Has an outside split class promotion outside with 2 parents been considered? Bring own chairs so less planning? – Even with a split event (300 students plus 2 parents) we would be over the 33% max capacity requirement.
5. How does El Rancho's promotion plans vary from our sister schools? How is Santiago and Cerro Villa managing their promotions comparably? – Santiago Elementary is also doing a drive through promotion. Not sure what Cerro Villa is doing but the number of students they have isn't as high as ours. El Rancho has the highest number of middle school students in the district.
6. What about on the field? More space to spread out. - The field is not big enough to accommodate 600 kids and still maintain 6ft. distance between all of them.
7. What about the 4.0 award ceremony? – We will only do the promotion ceremony. Any awards given will be included with the promotion certificate at promotion.