

PTP Minutes – March 2015
3/17/15

President Heather Azeltine brought the meeting to order and introductions were made. 20 parents and faculty were at the meeting, including three school board members.

Welcome/Introductions (Heather Azeltine):

- Kim showed two videos that she shared with staff: Kindness Boomerang “One Day” (Life Vest Inside) and Everyday Leadership with Drew Dudley (TED Talk).
- Heather distributed a sign-up sheet displaying the open PTP positions for next year, for parents to indicate if they are interested in any positions.

Principal Report/Discussion Topics (Kim Grengs):

- Community Building Day 3/18
- Learning Studio parent meeting on April 7th for students going into 3rd grade next year
- MCA testing begins 4/13. NWA testing follows MCA testing. Testing will continue through May.
- Looking for a Reading Corps member for Kindergarten for next year. It's basically a volunteer position, but they do receive a living stipend.
- Thanks to the Book Fair volunteers and for the luncheon.
- There are roundtables regarding next year's district financial budget. Please attend if you have questions or want to provide input. All dates and locations were sent twice via eblast to all parents.
- Working on staffing, class placement and ordering for next year.
- It's great to have the nice Spring weather so that the kids can get outside, especially during iNature class.

Financial Report (Cinda Lohmann):

- After everything has cleared, approved expenses were taken into consideration, and \$5,000 held out to start up Spirit Wear for next year, we have \$3,288 in our account.

Funding Requests:

- No funding requests at this meeting

Staff Appreciation (Heather Azeltine):

- May 4th-8th
- A sign-up sheet was passed around to capture names of anyone interested in helping.

Read-a-Thon (Heather Azeltine):

- The fundraising Read-a-Thon will be distributed next week to be completed over Spring Break.
- The goal is for kids to read every day for at least 20 minutes. It's attainable and keeps them on track with their reading.
- Starts Friday, March 23rd and goes through April 5th = 10 days
- Students will receive prizes for reading at least 9 days and 200 minutes.
- Log and pledges due April 10th.
- Packets will be assembled Thursday morning if anyone is interested in helping.

Book Fair Report (Sue Coccarelli):

- Total sales from the last Book Fair were \$9,980. All For Books was just over \$400. All profits are in Scholastic Dollars, which are funds that can be used for books. There will be approx. \$6,500 in books purchased next week. After this transaction the Scholastic Dollars balance will be around \$500.
- The BOGO sale will be May 13-15 during Grand Day.
- Thank you to all of the volunteers, especially Trisha Murphy with the luncheon and Michelle Ronnebaum for the decorations.

Reading Corps. (Sue Coccarelli):

- Next year there will be one fulltime and two part time positions with one focusing on Kindergarten.
- Sue has been working part time this year and really enjoys it. It's great to see the students' progress throughout the year. There is training that you go through. There are scripts to follow. It's a basic, easy role to learn.

- There will be positions open next year, so if anyone is interested or know someone who is, check on the district webpage for applications.
- Tuition credits can help towards student loans, including children or grandchildren potentially.

Volunteer Needs (Jen Cole):

- Spring pictures next week 3/25: 2 parents needed. Volunteers would receive a gift certificate voucher for helping.
- May need assistance to help with all of the Read-a-Thon packets once they are turned in.

Other Topics (Heather Azeltine):

- Budget cuts for 2015-16 school year:
 - Tera Lee (School Board) – on the district website (News & Events) is a Google Doc with all of the information that is being discussed and comments people are making about the budget cuts for 2015-16 school year.
 - The final, final budget isn't done until June, but what is proposed must be decided by March 25th
 - It was a discussion topic this morning in Ms. Sell's 4th grade class, as the students are concerned about it.
 - We need to be vocal with the Governor and Legislature, not the School District Superintendent or School Board since they just decide what to do with the funds that are given to us. We need to contact them now, within the next 48 hours if we want to impact it. Make it personal, short and simple. The MN School Board Association site has the key contact list of who makes the decisions and talking points to communicate to them: <http://msbacapitolconnections.com/2015/03/13/headline-msba-action-alert-urge-gov-dayton-legislature-to-support-education-funding-formula-increase/>
 - Parent Q: What about voting for a levy? It may come up in November, but even if it's approved it won't impact this upcoming school year.
- Parent Q: April 7th meeting for incoming 3rd graders – will information be available in case parents are still gone on Spring Break? Kim will have a brochure and a video.

Next PTP meeting will be April 21, 2015 at 6:30PM. Hope to see you there!

Attachments: