



Parent Teacher Organization

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 7, 2023

9:30-11:30 a.m.

Board Members Present: Mr. York (principal), Jessica Muelleck (President), Robyn Shelton (president-elect), Jessica Sabin (Historian), Trina McCarthy (Treasurer), Becca Bishop (secretary), Julia Halliday (volunteer coordinator, Amy Kalbes (safety), Patti Harrison (jog-a-thon co-chair, fundraising chair, book fair), Becca Price (Communications), Jessica Knorr (Chinese co-chair), Amy Burton (PE), Lisa Maxson (Chinese co-chair), Ms. Frohlic (teacher rep), Katie Ennis (SCC), Ms. Weenig (upper grade), Candice Diehl (Battle of the Books), Lay Kou (DLI representative) **Others via zoom:** Tyler Steiner (Enrichment chair), Amy Bennion (Room Parents)

Called to Order: Jessica Muelleck, Becca Bishop (seconded)

Principal Report

- Covid, flu, hand, foot, and mouth, and RSV are going through the school. Lots of sickness. Keep sick kids home!!! And tell people if you are sick!
- DLI enrollment is due by JANUARY 25th!
 - Get the word out about positive experiences with DLI.
 - Lunar New Year falls in February. This was our big push! We will celebrate outside of the time frame because we want the push.
 - Invite parents of any school that feeds into Riverton High School
 - Mr. York wants to visit the feeder schools with himself and a DLI representative. They need to do it at each school. The district will have a meeting at the district office, JATC south, and a zoom meeting. Anytime we require people to drive outside of their norm, it lowers their attendance.
 - No responses from colleagues or “no’s” so he is looking at different plan.
 - Reach out to the waitlists for Spanish and Portuguese waitlists. They are flooded and if we could recruit and pull from these waitlists.
 - Only 50 kindergarteners. The numbers are so low so as of now the continuation DLI does not look like it is hopeful.
 - PLEASE reach out anyone you know who may be interested in DLI and they can be permitted in! We need more DLI students to keep the program!
 - We are in the worst geographic situations of all of the programs.
 - Advantages of our DLI program - better AAPL scores, veteran principal in DLI school
 - Working with our own kindergartners to get them excited about joining the program.
- Told number of teachers that they can hire by February 1st.
- Register kindergarteners on January 3rd! Get them registered ASAP!

- Can we go to purely full-day kindergarten? Mr. York has petitioned for only a full-day option.
 - Depending on our numbers, this may be the best option. This will depend on the numbers.

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Teacher Updates:

- **Frohlich (K-2 Teacher rep)**
 - Having a great year!
- **Weenig (3-6 Teacher Rep)**
 - Teachers appreciate what the PTO is doing.
 - The funding for the colonies is funded – please let Zoolakis know that this is funded.
 - Watch for information for math team. The information went out a couple of months ago about math teams 2023/2024.
 - This has information about selection of teams. Look at that email.
 - Encourage battle of the books and kids turning in forms in the library! Remember there is a prize for the class in each grade that reads the most books!
- **Kou (DLI Representative)**
 - We are celebrating JANUARY 25th (Instead of February 9th) at 5:30 p.m.
 - Talked with Jessica and Lisa about the celebrations.
 - Chinese New Year Family Fair
 - About 10 stations – face painting, making pins, photo booth, dumplings (if approved by people with food handler permits), games, kung fu, singing song, tea tasting, artwork display, applications for the DLI program on this night,
 - Middle schoolers and high schoolers will help with this.
 - Create a digital image to get the information out.
 - Do we have fence clips for a dragon? There are a lot red and white. We only have 50-100 of the other colors.
 - Amy Kalbes should have the information about the number of clips.
 - Maybe ask the 6th graders to design a dragon.
 - Banner with all of the information
 - One teacher is in charge of fliers and QR codes. Have a different one that we can share digitally.
 - Buttons – Jessica Knorr will be in charge and Candice will show her how to do it.
 - Face painting – we have face painting and need more sponges.
 - Face paint – Jessica Sabin, Shauna Haraguchi, Mary Griffin as possible options.
 - Chinese book station and sell Chinese books.
 - Find a vendor with simple translations.
 - Chinese Bookfair?
 - Talk with Lisa and Jessi about the Chinese bookfair.
 - The Scholastic Book Fair cannot be combined with the Chinese Book Fair.

Enrichment

- **Math Team** – Could Tyler reach out to John Christensen and find out the plan for Math team?

- Mr. York sent teachers and email about choosing students for math team.1
- **Battle of the Books** – need more candy.
 - Teachers encourage students to keep reading.
- **Musical Update**
 - Some behavior issues, but mostly good
 - Trying on costumes now and working on skeleton costumes

Socks and Underwear Drive

- No Volunteers to take lead on this – this may have been lost with information about budget and Halloween.
 - Send out another email with only the socks and underwear.
- Reach out to service team – Howe, Inkley, Steiner
- Advertisement and collecting
- Could we reuse the flier from last year? Lisa Maxson and Jen Preece can head this up.

Inclusion

- How can we have inclusion? Amy Bennion suggests that we have an inclusion week like they do at Monte Vista.
- “Different is great”
- Assembly
 - Differences that you can see.
 - Differences that you can’t see.
- What makes you unique? How you might not be able to do one thing, but you have other talents and superpowers.
- Individual classes took on lessons each day. It takes principal and teacher support.
- Class projects in class about what makes them unique – unique as a class and an individual.
- Balloon with names and try to find balloons and then try to have people try to find a balloon and find the person.
 - If you look for just yourself, you won’t have success. But as you help others, we are able to go further.
- PTO funding
 - Estimate from the other school for the costs (Puzzle pieces (from district), poster boards, balloons, prize, seek and find activity – around \$200)
 - We don’t have money set aside for this but could the school focus on this and the PTO help.
- Inclusion could include DLI students and English students.
- Educating parents about inclusion is a big push there.
- Mr. York will meet with the teacher leadership group next week and discuss that.
 - The school already has students with high needs to talk to the class. Parent presentations were given about specific disabilities in the classroom.
 - Maybe we would do this by grade level instead of whole school. We could talk more specifically to that grade level. More of a reach for grade level than by classroom.

Teacher Appreciation

- May 6-10 for the national week.

PTC Dinners and Service Project

- February 21st and 22nd
- Potato Bar
- Please let teachers know ahead of time what the meal plan is.

Budget

- Send out the updated budget with the minutes.

Recess Equipment

- Amy Burton needs help bringing in the equipment.
- Can we do a spreadsheet and have people sign up to help?

Motion to Close:

Patti Harrison, Amy Burton (seconded)