

January 15, 2013 PTO Meeting

1. **Welcome – Larisa and Angie**

2. **Site council: Amy Samson**

OBOB: Oregon Battle of the Books

Practice battles were Fridays after school.

It's been very popular.

We need volunteers for scorekeeping, moderator, timekeeper. We need about 12 volunteers. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday first week of February.

3. **Principal's report: Tom**

Direct drive has earned \$25,000 and there is another \$10,000 potential donation. Fleet fund account. If funding you don't use one year, you can use the next year. We have about \$30,000 in fleet fund. So, together we have about \$80- 90,000 in funding for staffing next year. District about \$10 million shortfall for next year.

They are looking for parent input about the new school facilities plan. See Tom's recent email about this.

We need systematic way to measure French proficiency. One is a literacy measure. It assesses students in French similar to how we assess in English and would compare to how students in other French schools around the country and in Canada are performing. Cost: \$8,000 (\$3,000 plus \$5,000 in required training materials.)

We are talking to Ann Marie Levis, owner of Funk and Levis, local advertising company. Coming up with a logo, how we represent ourselves, branding etc.

We've concluding cooperation and have moved on to empathy. We had a kick off assembly for empathy.

We're going to get more French signage.

Last year we had a logo contest in K-12. Winner was Nathan Clark. We are going to begin using that logo.

Last year we adopted new math program. New core standards. They call for a different way to solve problems. A lot of language involved - more talking about it - could things be solved another way? etc. Teachers are working together now about what materials to use, what to expect for each grade, what to do with kids above grade level, below grade level etc.

Community living team: group that helps discuss/decide how to approach the five values, including a survey at the end to test its effectiveness.

School choice is coming up. School Showcase is as Cesar Chavez on Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> 9:30 a.m. representatives from each school there and interested parties can ask questions, find out information etc. 3 days of tours in January and February. Enrollment cap: 297. Tom is seeking to increase cap to 320. Requires board approval to do so. Tom is going to put it in front of the board. Old cap was set but now it is a new system.

School safety. A few incidents recently that caused us to think about how safe is our school? Risk management person from district came to assess school grounds. Fencing, security cameras. We'll do a walk through. How else could we secure it? Maybe certain doors closed/locked during day or at least certain times of the day. Also do a school lock down/secure room drill. We did a mock drill. Parents should wear name tags and sign in when they volunteer. We will tighten up that policy. We have ordered signs that say – welcome and please report to and sign in at the office.

#### 4. Committee Reports

- a. Math Madness: Jessica Keiper, Jen West, Cindy Gupta. Packets are going out this Friday. Now parents check worksheets at home instead of parent volunteers at school. Get donors.
- b. Holiday Fair: great success. People stayed longer than the year before.. Very festive. Kids had lots of fun.
- c. Mardi Gras: Stephanie Hand: Team leaders had a meeting today. Mardi Gras is February 22<sup>nd</sup>. We are going to add different things for the older children to do. Food is going to be scaled back b/c traditionally 4<sup>th</sup> grade runs the food as a fundraiser for Quebec trip.

4<sup>th</sup> grade class trip: Amy Samson is looking into the possibility of Canoe Island, in the San Juans, which is a French immersion experience. Tom: next year funds will be very tight, not sure if there will be money for trip. Should 4<sup>th</sup> grade do food for Mardi Gras this year, even though they do not know if there will be a class trip?

Decision- Mardi Grad committee will take care of food and money will go to general PTO fund. Site council in February meeting can make the decision about whether to allocate certain budget for a class culminating trip.

- d. Esprit de Corps: Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup>: storytelling theater night. Potato Dinner – potato bar. Connected with theme of empathy. Need volunteers to bring: grated cheese, chili, bacon bits, butter, sour cream, salsa. Etc. Divide food items among classes. From 5:50-7:30.. We need a story teller. Food, story read, students put on a skit.

Winter warmth drive: great success.

Canned Food Drive: during Mardi Gras week.

- e. In process of establishing PTO as a non profit so separate funds. Easier for school. We are declaring 501 3c, will be getting EIN number as soon as next week.

- f. Stand For Children: Volunteers to lobby and work with Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>: Lobby Day in Salem. There will be a carpool from South Eugene. No rally, but there will be actual meetings with legislators.