

PTO General Meeting  
Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013

1. Welcome – Larisa/Angie

2. Principal's report

a.

A. Turn and talk: strategies for posing questions and engaging students to have conversations.

B. Importance of Effective Feedback: specific, not general

b. Learning about Learning: a program of principals who observe other principals/schools in the district with a specific focus. Here: how is math instruction going? The team said our method seemed Socratic, lots of dialogue between students and teachers/students. Tom felt very good about who we are and what we're doing.

c. Safety assessment: Company looking to do safety assessments and pilot projects free of charge. There will be a team here first two days of spring term to check structure, location, other features. District risk manager has been here, and we're high on the list of getting fencing around the school.

d. Staffing allocation: April 12<sup>th</sup> we get our staffing for next year allocation.

April 16<sup>th</sup>: PTO finds out staffing.

April 17<sup>th</sup>: Teachers find out.

April 18<sup>th</sup>: Site council.

April 19<sup>th</sup>: Silent auction.

April 22<sup>nd</sup>: Direct drive kick off.

This year, we had funding for 9.1 teachers and used parent funds to pay for the remaining .9 to get us to our current 10 teachers. For next year, we may get the same 9.1 which would mean we need approximately \$230,000 to get us to 11 teachers (2 for each grade). Best case scenario is that the district gives us 10 teachers and we pay for the remaining 1.

We have \$108,000 raised so far this year.

Long-term strategy is to raise our enrollment cap so we get higher funding.

Sabrina Parsons: NOW is the time to make noise in Salem. Many legislators report not hearing from people about the education budget issue.

Next meeting will be dedicated to staffing. Please come!!

- e. Site council will be reduced next year by 1 parent and 1 teacher.
  
- f. Canoe Island: Gave District info and told them here's what we want to do. Probably they will give us the okay, though it's a bit awkward now for trying to get more teachers but get okay for going on extra trip.

### 3. Committee Reports

#### a. Fundraising:

- A) Mardi Gras: went well, all new additions (Photo Booth, all funds and tickets got to everything – not separate 4<sup>th</sup> grade/Mardi Gras fund. ) Have more college students next year for food service. Largest turn out of teachers and staff yet. Grand total profit: \$3,700.
- B) Johnson Brothers fundraiser – Mother's Day baskets and cards.
- C) Papa's Pizza fundraiser: \$950
- D) Rummage Sale: April 6<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up for times to volunteer and put fliers.
- E) Silent Auction: perhaps kick off Direct Drive at Silent Auction. Also have an EScrip computer for people to sign up for escrip there. Some people raised the idea of having an auctioneer and having live bidding etc. We discussed pros and cons of that. If people have ideas they should email the committee members.
- F) Garden: All planted. Every class has done something. We're applying for the next level of Green School (merit level.) If we get application done in next week or two, we can get a \$500 grant from the city. We need 4<sup>th</sup> graders to present at the EWeb April 20<sup>th</sup>, Earth Day celebration about our compost system.

#### b. Esprit de Corps:

- A) Successful Staff Appreciation Week. Poster with people 's bios in breezeway. Beverage and baked good of choice from Starbucks. Chocolate truffle, Market of Choice \$15 gift card. Something everyday. If you have ideas for future ones, let Gina Thompson know. Next month we'll need a lot of help for All Staff appreciation.

#### c. Co-Chairs Report

- A) PTO is now non profit. 501c status. We don't have to pay taxes on what we fundraise. PTO can now have control over their funds and can directly deposit funds etc.

#### d. Stand for Children

- A) Bond: will build four new buildings, including Roosevelt, as well

as renovate other schools. Will buy a writing curriculum, science equipment (Bunson burners, other things), tech equip, re-do wiring for tech. New busses. Will increase property taxes by .28 cents per thousand dollars. Extra \$42 per year for the median house cost of \$170,000. Will there be yard signs?

B) WRITE YOUR LEGISLATOR about SCHOOL FUNDING!!!

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 16, 2013 6:30-8:00pm