

planting party tentatively set for January 30th. Parent volunteers needed to help plant. Cost of the 10 trees is \$350, or \$35 each. We need people to sponsor a tree for \$35. See details in PTO E-news.

H. Poinsettias - Alice Webb

Sold nearly \$5000, profit nearly \$1500.

I. Budget – Gina and Shannon (brief overview)

PTO Executive Council approved the 2015-2016 budget last week, the same as last year. Fundraising goal is \$100,000 (same as last year) to support staffing.

3. Principal Report - Eric

10 minutes

Reported on progress and activities of staff professional development (plan presented at October's PTO meeting). Math and Language Arts standards will be shared at PTO meeting in February.

Eric distributed out handout "Twenty Things I can Do to Be a Better Multicultural Educator" by Paul C. Gorski as an example of material staff is using for their professional development. Another example is a TED Talk titled "The danger of a single story" by author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Staff viewed the video and participated in an activity regarding what teachers can do to embrace/support multiple perspectives in the classroom and our school:

https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story?language=en

4. Teacher Update - Carrie Grabowski

N/A

5. QA

10 minutes

Q. Is there a way to have people do opt out for e-news instead of opt in?

A. Not aware of how to do this in Synergy system (Shannon)

Q. How are Amity Interns funded and what is the cost? What number of interns is an ideal number for us to have?

A. Cost is \$3600 per intern, per year. They assist in classroom 30-35 hours/week. Ideally we would like 5 interns per year (one in each grade 1-5.) For this, we need funding and 10 families to host per year (two families per year for each intern.) (Eric/Connie)

Q. What is the status of the goal to expand our program to three classrooms in each of the lower grades?

A. Eric has immersion principal meeting 11/18 about that and other issues (lottery process, etc.) (Eric)

Q. Is there a way we can add more Music and PE?

A. For equity reasons, Music and PE are district level decisions so we can't as a school decide to have more. (Eric)

Q. Why don't kids get break/recess every hour or second recess in 4-5 grades?

A. We follow what district mandates. Kids do get up and move around in classrooms - they are not sitting in their chairs all day. (Eric/Carrie Grabowski)

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

NEXT PTO GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, December 15, 2015

Prepared by:

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11/18/15