

CCCK8 PTSA
General Membership Meeting
3/7/16

Present: Tami Lawson, Joanna Waggoner, Melissa Vince, Jennifer Brown, Jason Moat, MaryAnn Mcinnis, Stephanie Rosario, Maria McVey, Lesa Clarkson, Laura Graves, Sumi Ghosh

Principal Report

School updates and results of budget decisions:

- Next year 5th and 6th will be combined for half day, for reading and writing. The curriculum is similar.
- Mr Birch's position is a temporary position and therefore he is first to go and he will not be here next year.
- Instructional coach from 1 FTE to .5
- Reduction in para hours, but hope to be able to fundraise since they are non-licensed position
- Half day Kindergarten. If less than 12 of the 15 Kindergarten kids don't choose to pay for the second half of the day, there will be a problem.

Welcoming environment survey review

- General point made: it is difficult to convey and communicate to parents that school is willing to listen. Parents have to take a little responsibility of their own to know these things. There's perception and there is reality. All of the information is available to parents. Example: the handbook – parents can ignore the instructions to read the whole thing, but they indicate on the survey that school doesn't give them sufficient information.
- Low scores on survey that stood out:
 - o "I am informed about how my child is doing socially at school." Is there much feedback from school to parents about social stuff? Not really. Need more meaningful and consistent feedback. Behavior is an afterthought. Class Dojo can be helpful for parents to know about behavior, and good for some students and their motivation. But, Dojo and report cards and kids' verbal reports can all differ. Do we get enough information during conferences about social? Depends on the kid. Some parents have no problem seeking out the feedback. How can we encourage parents to seek out feedback?
 - o "My child's school helps keep me informed of the legal rights of children and families." JB: there really isn't a need for everyone to know everything until they are in a situation where there is a need to know. So, of course parents say they are not informed. Need to have a N/A choice on this question. Does the low score indicate that people acknowledge they haven't read what is available to them? Or did something happen to nearly 40% of the population and they felt they didn't have enough info?
 - o "School staff updates me on my school's progress" JB will try to put more in Friday notes. Always share test results, good or bad.

- “I feel that I am a partner with the school in making decisions that impact children at the school? Come to PTSA meetings!! Suggestion to send meeting reminders to all PTSA members. JB is able to email whole school, while Jody is not, so she can take advantage of that, with subject lines like “you can make a difference by...”
- “The school connects me to community resources” JB does try to advertise outside stuff, but sticks mainly to Jeffco district stuff. She doesn’t want to send 500 flyers in Friday Folders. JB gets around those restrictions by routing stuff through PTSA. Idea: PTSA put together resources for summer, since Wee Creekers is not offering a school-age program any more.

Update on School Improvement Review (previously Instructional Rounds)

The group came to talk to kids individually and compiled trends about their goals. All kids accomplished at least one goal (that was the school goal).

JB had difficulty scheduling a teacher visitor this month

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Confirm teacher appreciation dinner. Wednesday during conference week. Plan for about 10 teachers, set up about 5:00. Laura is planning. VolSpot will be sent out.

Snacks for testing – yes, please. \$50 last year: big thing of Costco pretzels, goldfish. Laura will handle.

Jason – Eagle Eyes update: Not structured enough – guys end up wandering the halls bored and find it difficult to keep busy. Discussion for improvement included change to half day, push the teachers to have stuff to do, JB will brainstorm with teachers a long list of things that can always be done; ask kids if they have ideas about what the dads can do; maybe have one para do the coordinating and organizing?

Field trip buses: new rule that all bus rental has to go through district with “approved vendor process” so JB is waiting to see what will be scheduled for field trips.

Please do fall math night again next September. It was helpful.

JB suggests putting Health and Wellness week around Day Without Hate. Other ideas: CSA talk?

Silent Auction: Can each of us get 5 donations? Last year student art was very popular. Any student art – thumbprints valentine? Student music?? Beth gave JB a list. List from Jody: Elitches, Zoo, Children’s museum, AMC, Fat Cats. Tami will email the donation letter out and try to make assignments. Use JB’s phone number for return calls if you end up playing phone tag. Talent show decorations request are elaborate – perfect project for Eagle Eyes.

Alternate fundraiser results: about \$400 so far.