

PTO MINUTES-THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 6:30

Welcome and Introductions

What is PTO-Support Student Learning

- work w/ Tom and Staff
- coordinate volunteers
- fundraising
- events

PTO because everyone is a member, there are no dues.

Principal News

*950 students-200 Spanish Immersion, 750 4/5th grades

*minor adjustments to Lunch/Recess schedules the first week

*First month working on knowing the children, morning meetings, DIBELS assessments, MAP testing.

*The students will now have Wednesday Folders, district policy. Has been an adjustment getting used to this schedule.

*Meet & Greet: Great turn-out. Had some feedback about stretching out the time to help the parking crunch.

*Thank you for the Teacher Gift cards

*Pictures will be September 29

*Looking for feedback for a curriculum night-thinking of sending a survey

*WIKI pages_ all teachers will have page on the website with schedules, homework, class news.

*Choir Program-The time has been changed to AM before school because of scheduling issues. Lesli Sutor has agreed to come in before school. There are 75-100 students in choir.

*MCA scores-Parents can expect to receive the scores end of the month-will also receive scores at Conferences.

*Bus Patrols-Going smoothly, K-2 bus buddies, K-2 team up with 5th grade bus patrols. K sit in front of buses.

Budget

*There is a yellow folder in the PTO Box to be reimbursed for PTO events. Just fill out the form and place on the other side of folder.

*2 budgets-Spanish Immersion and 4/5th grade. This was voted on last spring. There will be a 20%/80% split for combined events.

Budget approved with addition of childcare line. Motion and seconded

School Board-our representative is Marilyn Forsberg

*Stats from our district-13% speak a language other than English

-43 different languages represented in our district

-35% free lunch

-322 2011 graduates

-484 Kindergardeners

*District has a district wide policy on where the schools can request money from.

*A thank you to the Panther Foundation and the Lions Club for all they contribute to our schools.

*The teacher contracts have been settled.

*Election coming up November 8th

-two questions on the ballot

1st question-Renewal-\$3 million-a yes vote will not raise taxes. If a no vote district will have to cut \$3 million.

2nd question-Tech Levy, Maintaining equipment and buying some new.

-Voting for School Board Members, 3 seats are open and there are 6 candidates

*Marilyn will be gone at our next meeting for School Board Association Meeting.

Kids First will be presenting at our October 6th Meeting.

Panther Foundation-representative Amy Privratsky

*Starting the Ambassador Program-a representative will be at the PTO meetings to connect with the schools.

*To become a member she had forms and they are also on the Panther Foundation website-You can become a member for as little as \$25.

*Explained that the Panther Foundation raises money to help the schools. They have raised over \$400,000 for the schools. This year they placed a Smart Board in every PreK-5 classroom! They have supplied books to the media center, 1 on 1 devices, smart boards, study island, etc., etc. Tom talked about what a huge difference they make.

*Two events coming up are:

The Panther Fun Run on October 1st,

Grant deadlines for Money for support of the school October 7.

Information is on their website.

Student Council

*starts 1st week of October

*Student led-students elected in each classroom. It is 4/5th grades but work with the K-2 as well.

*Focus on community involvement and Student Learning Programs

Volunteer Opportunities

*Need lots of volunteers and coordinators.

*Thursday help-Spanish Immersion teacher help, stapling, cutting, etc. 9:30 until done. Room 131 Please just show up-Everyone is Welcome!

*Fundraiser-A survey was sent out last spring and 90% choose a Pledge event or Family Night. We are doing a Family event the end of October.

*Triathlon-Tara

-Kids wear red/white/blue

-3 events

-The class will rotate through the events. Younger children will go first.

-Incentives for the classes to meet the class goal, which is \$25 per child in class. lunch with principal, ice cream party, choose a fun day(jammies to class, hats, etc)

-Everyone participates-No exclusion. Looking for Volunteers,

Upcoming Events

*Fall Fundraiser-September 27th

*Teacher Meals and Book Fair-October 17th-19th

*Family Fun Night-October 28th

Teacher Presentations

*Senor Ritchie-Spanish Immersion Kindergarden

It has been a good start to the year. There is a strong sense of community. 8 teachers, including 4 new ones. On September 26th There will be a curriculum night at 6:30.

*Matt Gamage-5th grade teacher in Looping Class.

Enjoys the Looping class, the students stay with the same teacher and class for 4th and 5th grade. Many advantages to looping. The teacher knows the children well and when they start up the 5th grade year they can hit the ground running. The looping class can be requested with Mr. Larson.

Meeting Adjourned.