

October 18, 2016 - PTO Meeting

## 1. Principal's Report

Conference sheets went home to one child in your family. Please return those so conferences can be scheduled.

Nov. 7th begins Phy Ed rotation. Students will rotate PE, science and arts - rotating by week. You will be notified of the order of music and art.

First Awards Assembly tomorrow. At least once per year each student will be recognized. A Safe Routes to School letter went home today. This program encourages more kids to walk or bike to school. A workshop will be held here Wed. Oct. 26th. School arrival and dismissal times will be observed, with a discussion from 3:00-4:30. If you're interested in joining during any time of the day let Jill Gebeke know. Parent question: It's currently recommended that grades 3 and under bike to school with a parent and not alone. Parent input: Ideas for Safe Routes to School include things like "walking school bus" with parent volunteers for community and wellness building activities. There are also efforts to include wellness in in-school activities.

## 2. Title I

Jill shared the Title I talking points handout. Title I is based on the free and reduced lunch count from the previous year. We get \$88,400. [Title 1 Talking Points](#)

Amount that Chelsea is allocated: \$88,400.

Jill shared the Chelsea Family Engagement Plan (FEP) for the 2016-2017 school year. We created this during our PTO meeting last year. The Family Engagement Plan includes four impact areas: welcoming environment, family partnerships, teaching and learning and community partnerships. [Family Engagement Plan](#) is located here.

Parent questions: Are all school in St. Paul Title I? No, Randolph, St. Anthony Park, and Horace Mann are not.

When do you learn our numbers that will be used next year? Our count is done based on October 1st numbers, but we don't get that designation right away.

Parent suggestion: Encourage families to fill out the free and reduced lunch applications that are mailed home. Jill will help families complete the form during conferences if needed.

### Proposed School Start Times:

At the recent Board meeting, there was discussion about when to implement a plan. Voting will be done on Nov. 15th. Public comments are being heard on Oct. 25th and Nov. 15th. You need to sign up online if you're interested in sharing a public comment. Changes to school start times would be implemented in the 18-19 school year. We understand that an earlier start would change our need for after school programs. Is this a topic of conversation for the Safe Routes to School? How does this impact pick-ups in the cold and dark in the winter? How would this impact school enrollment? How do teachers feel about it? They have similar questions. As a community school we are proposed to start at 7:30 or 7:45.

Check out [spps.org/starttimes](http://spps.org/starttimes) for more information.

### 3. Club's Choice Update

Currently we have deposited just under \$23,000. Online sales were \$3500. We get 40% and Club's Choice gets 60%. We get an extra stipend based on our number of items sold. We got a good number of straight donations to Chelsea. Delivery date of items is Nov. 1st. We need volunteers to help with the delivery date. Set up is at 2:00 and organization takes place in the cafeteria. Pick up is from 2:45-5:30. We are planning on not doing incentive key chains next year and Brooke asked for feedback from the teachers. Younger grades see the incentive piece and older grade teachers shared the key chains were a distraction. Students will still get their prizes based on sales. Bob from Club's Choice donates 2-3 bounce houses for Carnival. He also gives us cookies and prize donations that Jill uses. Brooke can share the feedback about the complication about online vs catalog sales with Bob. Credit card sales will need to be done with online orders only.

### 4. Bonfire and Coat Drive

John from NW Como thanked us for our participation. We have face painting, concessions (Booster income), the DJ, the Gaga Pit, flu shots and bonfire.

At the coat drive we had about a dozen families come through. We plan to do it again on the Nov. conference nights, the 15th and 17th. We can take donations at school or Brooke can take them at home. Gently used items are welcome. All sizes - adults and kids.

### 5. Food Drive

We donate to Neighborhood House. Looks for flyers and emails. We do host a contest for the winning homeroom. We collect non-perishable food items and toiletries. Some items

do stay at Chelsea to be shared with our students. We will begin collecting on October 31st. Consider items that have pull-top lids (instead of can opener items). What do Chelsea families need? We take veggies, fruit, rice, breakfast bars, etc. Social workers deliver to families. We do about 10 boxes for Chelsea families.

Do we take toys or books for families? Jill is looking into opportunities for families who would be interested. Connect with [Diane.Sewell@SPPS.org](mailto:Diane.Sewell@SPPS.org) at Chelsea if you have items for kids ages 2-12.

6. Conference Meals - Parents volunteer to provide a meal to teachers. Look for an email if you're interested in signing up for an item through Sign-Up Genius.

7. Conference Reminders – Parents can see specialist teachers during conferences. Signs with specialists names and locations will be posted. Look for a note home after October 26th with your scheduled time. You will be assigned the same time for the spring conference. Conflicts or questions see Jill. Parents appreciate the teachers being flexible with siblings being around.

#### 8. December PTO Meeting – Social Event

In the past we have socialized at Underground Music Cafe and Como Park Grill. We are considering bowling this year. Any feedback? We are open to suggestions for events and dates. People liked our fundraiser at Urban Growler. We have also suggested a volunteer event in the past. Trivia night would be fun.

#### 9. NW Como Rec Center

We have 22 kids in artists workshop, and archery is very popular. Swimming field trip to Great River on Thursday during MEA. \$5 per child.

Winter - Christmas cookie decorating. Adult art with wine and cheese. \$50.

Feb. 10th is date night. We'll watch your kids for \$10 per kid. Underground will give a buy one get one coupon. Skating night, basketball coming up.

After Spring Break on Fridays we'll have Movie Fridays from 3:00-5:00. Popcorn and movies for six weeks.

Our Booster meeting is at Underground at 6:30 next Thursday the 27th. We want more involvement, especially from younger families. Booster Club helps sell concessions at events to raise money.

If there are programs you'd like to see, contact John at the rec center or email him. You can register for programs at the rec center. The online registration is being updated.

10. Give to the Max - Nov. 17th - A state-wide day of giving. PTO has a donation page on the Give site. You can donate through the Give to the Max website, or directly through PTO. Give to the Max does take a percentage of your donation. Look for an email!

11. Budget - Julie shared that Club's Choice is the biggest change in our budget from last month. Of the \$23,000 we have deposited for Club's Choice, we will keep a portion based on what we owe for items.

#### 12. Closing Remarks or Questions

The Cheetah Challenge traveling trophy has been very popular. We enjoyed the "CHE" photo. We are working on cafeteria behavior.

Seesaw app - All teachers are going to have this electronic portfolio. Kids will be posting their work.