

April 19, 2016
Chelsea Heights PTO Agenda

1. Principal's Report

Grades 3-5 are taking the MCAs. We will be testing for the next two and a half weeks.

Jill shared a budgeting 101 Power Point and short video from the district. The video explained where money from the district budget comes from and that some money can only be spent on specific items and needs. We are projecting a \$15.1 million deficit for the next school year. By June 30, 2016 the Board of Education will approve a new budget.

The PowerPoint included the "big picture", staffing the schools, funding our school, calendar and questions.

All schools do not get the same amount of money. The more needs your school has, the more money your school receives. Comp ed and Title 1 are separate money sources. The money you get is based on the previous years Oct. 1 count of students below the poverty level.

Legislature shortfall is 9.3 million, contractual commitments (class size, etc) is 3.5, compensatory revenue decrease (free and reduced lunch applications has decreased) and general education revenue decrease (2/29 projected enrollment) is 1.2 million.

The biggest thing that impacts CHE is eliminating job-embedded PD at non-priority elementary, K-8 and 6-8 sites. One FTE (Full Time Equivalent) is being eliminated at our building. Science has covered the job embedded PD the past four years. The district is offering an early retirement incentive (2.5 million). This is another area that might impact CHE.

Last year's budget at CHE was 2.5 million and this year's was 2.4 million. To purchase a teacher would be about \$96,000. We have on 1 principal/1 secretary, 3 kindergarten teachers, 15 classroom teachers and 3 specialists. We have \$30,000 in instructional supplies (plus what PTO gives each teacher) and \$14,000 in extra-curricular expenses. We have a 0.75 TA library and 0.5 counselor/school social worker. The 0.5 counselor is a new position.

Special education is centrally funded. We didn't lose any positions this year. ELL staffing didn't change either. We were allocated 3 days/week for nursing for the school year 2016-17.

Title 1: We have a lot of restrictions and must support math, reading, parent involvement and behavior. We have a cultural specialist/PBIS (\$56K) and TA kindergarten (\$24K).

The biggest change at CHE is the elimination of a specialist offering. Preliminary parent survey feedback was "offer science and have art and music for a 0.5 year each". Board regulation states: PE, art or music at elementary level. Parents shared in the survey that they'd like to see the engineering in science, science for a full year. Students will have PE one week, art or music

one week and science one week. Science has not been a part of the specialists rotation for four years.

How do teachers feel? Jill had the teachers do a similar survey today and she hasn't been able to look at it today. Could STEM be offered once or twice a week? Are there creative ways to incorporate STEM? There are engineering standards that will need to be incorporated into science. STEM is currently covering those engineering standards. Could PTO give money to supplies to in turn support an hourly teacher position? Teachers were asked if they preferred a nurse 4x a week or the hourly teachers (to assist with struggling students).

How do we compare to other schools in the district? Schools that are not Title 1 may be facing more constraints next year. We are a low poverty school and that is what our staffing is based on.

Can we bring in other resources from the community to work with teachers to meet the needs of what we are cutting? Can we think outside of the box? Artist in Residence is an example.

5th graders take science MCA (science is published but only math and reading scores determine the money / high stakes stuff).

We haven't heard the district's plan for PLC (professional learning communities) for next year. How are teachers going to get their professional development time?

Is special education impacted by these cuts? Yes, but not at the building level.

Based on the survey, what else is coming into consideration? Jill meets with assistant superintendent and also takes into consideration teacher and parent input.

Is there flexibility for PTO to take on some of the supply budget? PTO currently gives about \$9000 in classroom grants (\$250 per staff and \$500 for specialists) and the grants program (\$6000 for special programs). Is that sustainable? That's why PTO doesn't spend money on people/staff. We need to set our budget for next year in May. What would teachers think about shifting how that money is spent? Teachers and Jill think that the hourly teachers are a good bang for our buck.

2. Silent Auction Update: We brought in more than what we budgeted. We took in \$6760.89. We still have items for purchase, items to be paid for, and checks to be deposited. Feedback: The long table of bid sheets was challenging. How was attendance? It seemed lower than last year. Paul Seeba volunteered his time to play acoustic. We saw quite a few Murray families in attendance. Thank you for the support! Please share feedback with Brooke.

3. Running Club (week 1 Recap): We have a lot of kids! We have 70 kids and the cap was 50. Registrations came in over spring break and some kids attended and weren't registered. We have a snack, head outside for games and running in groups of kids. We will be looking for a coordinator for next year.
4. Science Fair: We had 94% participation for grades 3-5. We had U of M grad students come in during the STEM week of rotation. Thank you to Sarah Hobbie for organizing this! It was a positive experience, but have decided to reduce the number of project options. It worked well but would need some adjustments for next year. PTO supplied the Target gift cards, ice cream (Como Park Grill) and root beer (Lift Bridge) were donated. Volunteer judges had lunch donated by Jimmy John's. Could the PTO send out a note next year when the science fair project packet comes out?
5. Fundraisers:
 - a. Bare Honey: This brought in about \$150 dollars. We received 20% of sales.
 - b. Urban Growler: Coming May 1st! You can purchase soda & carnitas (or nachos) or a pint and carnitas (or nachos). Look for a flyer.
 - c. Brick Sale: The bricks around the playground were sold when the playground was updated. Would people be interested in purchasing a brick near the rec center? The small brick was \$100 and the larger brick was \$250. We took in about 70% of what was charged.
 - d. Color Run: We did the run through a company last year and have decided to do it every other year.
6. Ideas for Sand Pit Area: outdoor classroom whiteboard, access for students with special needs?
Special education teachers will hear this question at their meeting tomorrow morning.
7. Open Officer Positions (voting in May): One treasurer position and the vice president position is open. We need to know asap if you are interested. Let us know if you want more information.
8. NW Como: Ashli brought a summer activity brochure specific to NW Como. There are a few camps included that are shared with two other sites. There are still some openings in some summer sports.
9. Chelsea Carnival: Vote for Fun! Our carnival is May 20th from 5-8 pm. We need over 100 volunteers. Tickets for games are 50 cents. We do make money, but the event is really a community building event. We are collecting items to be used as prizes.
10. Closing Remarks