

## March 15, 2016 Agenda

### 1. Principal's Report - Jill

- Conference slips with dates and times went home.
- Science Fair is the week after break. Wednesday is judging day and awards are on April 14th.
- MCA testing begins in April for grades 3-5. It's all computerized, spread out over four sessions for each classroom. Students take reading and math tests, and science in 5th grade.
- Parent Academy - Sean Stewart is the contact person. - Wednesdays, starts April. 13th 5:30-8:00, through May 18th . Child care will be available at Chelsea Heights. Discussions last year included navigating the St. Paul schools and helping kids get to college.
- Jill won't get her budget for a couple of weeks. The board will vote on the teacher contract on Tuesday and is expecting a \$15 million dollar shortfall.
- School choice letters should be mailed out first week in April - 5th graders have given about 50 tours.
- The Destination Imagination competition was last weekend. One team is going on to state - a 5th grade team. They also received the Renaissance Award. April 9th is the state competition.
- Area E summer school will be hosted at Chelsea.

### 2. NW Como - baseball registration is currently underway. Some teams will begin in May. Lego Zipliners starts soon, Mineral Mania in May and Spring Break activities. Look for new classes! There are some new adult classes, singing camps, art classes, science and dance workshops, free adult volleyball, and movie night and camp out (free this year) is Friday, July 29th. Lots of variety! Como Fest will take place during the whole month of July rather than just one weekend. Activities will be spread out over the weekends of the month.

### 3. Fundraisers

- a. Bare Honey - A Chelsea family (a local company) is offering a two day event where families would use a code with their honey order and 20% percent of the proceeds goes to Chelsea. This is an online shopping event. Deliveries would be arranged through Groundswell Coffee. Flyers were given to teachers today.
- b. Urban Growler - Sunday, May 1st - Flyers will come home later. \$15 gets you two carnitas and a soda or pint. They are charging us \$8 and \$10 and we get the difference for each ticket. Tickets will be sold at Urban Growler on the day of the event.
- c. Silent Auction - April 16th at Gabe's - Donations are coming in. Volunteers will be needed for set-up and raffle sales. We have about \$7000 so far in donations. Check out the Facebook event. We have a new donation this year of a CSA and a meat package. A Sign Up Genius will be coming out to help you sign up for volunteer opportunities.

4. Open Officer Positions - one treasurer and the vice president position - Let Brooke know if you would like to know more about the positions. [chelseaheightsPTO@gmail.com](mailto:chelseaheightsPTO@gmail.com)
5. Open Box Top Coordinator - The current coordinator has decided to stay on and Ann has decided to join the team as well. If anyone else is interested please contact PTO. The Box Top team could still use more help. A lot of work goes into counting 22,000 box tops. If people are interested in participating in a box top counting event, PTO can help coordinate that. Let Brooke know if you would be interested.
6. Running Club - Co-Coach needed We are looking at doing Running Club on Mondays and Fridays from April 10th-May 13th. Sign up is limited to 50 students for grades 1-5. We have one coach but need another coach. Coaches hours would be from before school dismissal to about 4:30. We do have some parent volunteers, but do need one more coach. Part of the coaching duties would include organizing activities and games, attendance, parent communication, as well as other duties. What are people's thoughts on providing a stipend? It could free someone up who needs to pay for childcare. We have tried include some track athletes from local high schools and colleges but because of their seasons it's tough to plan. Could PTO pay for a sitter? Would people be interested in that?

#### 7. 2016-2017 Specialists- Parent Input/Planning

The school board last year said you need phy ed and art or music.

Parent questions:

How is the science class different from STEM? The goal is STEM is for students to be using their iPads. Upper grades have been doing some coding. The teacher is teaching standards.

How is computer lab time different from STEM? The computer lab is used during STEM, and that is usually Thursday and Friday. The lab will be used less once MCA testing starts. The use of the iPads varies by grade level.

Parents shared that the arts are really important to them. There is a certain amount of phy ed time required by the district. Our schedule meets that requirement.

Parents shared that they liked having both art and music, even if they were split over half of the year this year.

We will revisit in May. We would plan to do a Survey Monkey when we hear more about next year's budget so that we can hear parent input.

8. Color Run - We did a color run last year and used a company to host the event. We have decided to do one again this year but without the company. The date of the event is June 4th. If anyone would like to help coordinate let PTO know. Does anyone have any input? Parents said the prizes aren't important. We would do simple white t-shirts. Last year parents were confused about whether they needed to pay to run with their child. We made about \$1000 last year. Jill Dent has offered to help coordinate. Ginny Hayes also said she would help volunteer.

9. Budget -

Classroom grants - We have spent \$2238 so far. There is unclaimed money for teacher classroom money.

The separate grants committee has money. Jill, Anita and Ann offered help with grant reading.

Budget question - Is there money set aside for the corner of the playground from when the playground renovation happened? There were talks of completing that part of the project at a later date.