

PTO Meeting
Monday, March 16, 2015
6:30-7:30

Minutes

Welcome and Introductions - Brooke Ust

Principal's Report - Jill Gebeke

Facilities Master Plan Committee: Each school in the district has been asked to meet. All the Area E schools (including Chelsea Heights) had a four hour meeting last Saturday. Jill Gebeke, Darcy Rivers, Dylan Larson (parent), and Jess Banks (parent) attended. Brooke will join the committee in the future.

They identified ten areas that need improvement: flooring materials, a new rec center entrance, varied learning spaces, a real science lab in the basement, open collaborative spaces, spaces for volunteers, narrow stairwells and halls, natural lighting, inefficient bathrooms, and flexible use furniture.

Overall the building is considered a "yellow" on a "green/yellow/red" grading scale.

iPads: iPads have been in place for a month. The students use them for 10-15 minutes per day and seem very engaged.

Conferences: Conferences will take place on Thursday evening and Friday morning this week. The teachers appreciate the meals organized by the PTO.

Grant: Chelsea Heights was one of 32 schools nominated to apply for a Spotlight Initiative Grant (funded by United Way and Target). Criteria to apply included being a Title I school and having "celebration" status based on testing. Ten \$100,000 grants will be awarded. Notifications will be sent in May. Our proposal was to have COMPAS provide artists in residence to teach students and teachers their crafts.

Literacy Night - Brooke Ust

Attendance was approximately 186 people, down about a 100 people from last year. Attendance might have been influenced by the lack of pizza dinner that was provided in past years. Previously pizza costs had been covered by Title I funds, but those funds were not available this year. PTO may cover the cost to order pizza next year.

The event had different activity stations, raffle prizes, The Story Man from England, and a snack of cookies and milk.

It was suggested that we change the next year.

PBS/TPT Family Math Night - Brooke Ust

Tuesday, March 24, 2015 6pm-8pm

Sean Stewart is working with TPT to put on the event. Four parent volunteers are needed. More information will be coming this week.

Science Fair - Brooke Ust

Thursday, April 9 6pm-8pm

There will be root beer floats for all attendees. Winners will be recognized. Younger kids will receive a ribbon and older kids will receive a gift card.

Boards for projects cost \$3.50 and will be available for sale during conferences. Volunteers are needed for the evening event.

Destination Imagination - Brooke Ust

Five teams competed on March 7th. Bad Salsa Company (4th grade) and Do You Want Fries with That? (5th grade) are advancing to the state tournament.

Silent Auction - Brooke Ust

So far, local business donations total approximately \$10,000. A Touch of Rust will be playing at the event. They have advertised this event to their followers. Volunteer sign-ups will be sent out soon. New this year, we will be accepting credit card payments (via the Square) for auction items.

Families will be asked to donate items to fill baskets to sell at the auction. Basket themes are Chocoholic, Great Outdoors, What's for Dinner, Road Trip, Take Me Out to the Ballgame, and Splish Splash.

Admission is \$25/couple or \$15/individual and includes two drink tickets and appetizers. Gabe's charges \$1,000 for use of the venue, drinks, and food.

Budget - Carrie Peltier

We are looking good for the year. Right now, we are \$2,500 in the black. The silent auction and carnival will bring in revenue later this year.

Outdoor Landscape Committee - Brooke Ust

Sarah Hobbie is looking for volunteers to help with (and eventually take over) the committee. Main duties include weeding and watering the gardens and front flower beds.

NW Como Recreation Center - Darcy Rivers

Spring break activities include tumbling legos, and tennis. Summer sports registration (t-ball, nearball, softball, baseball, etc) is open through the end of March. Summer class/camp registration will open on March 23rd. Flyers will go home this week.

Running Club - Bryan Larson

Tomorrow is the deadline to register. So far, thirty kids and nine adults are signed up. T-shirts were printed by the Roseville High School.

The club meets Mondays and Wednesday from 3:00-4:15, April 6 through May 6. Kids will have a snack in the cafeteria, go for a short run, and play field games. They will be outside rain or shine. Darcy requested that, in the event of rain, the kids stay on the grass to protect the fields.

Misc

Mudslingers (a new drive thru coffee shop on the corner of Lexington and Country Road B) is owned by Chelsea Height's parents. They offered to host a "no-work" fundraiser the first Tuesday of every month. If you mention Chelsea Heights, 10% of sales will be donated to the PTO.

Anita will be working with Cara on the Cheetah Chatter and will take over the publication next year.

There was discussion about the decision to drop the word "African" from "African American Parent Involvement Day" this year. Some felt this defeated the purpose of the day, and others felt it was more welcoming to all parents. Ginny has offered to provide suggestions for next year. (For example, having all kids create an invitation for their parents to attend.)

We need to do a better job of promoting the PTO. One suggestion was to have a PTO table at conferences next year.

On the morning of Saturday, May 9th, we will host a Color Run. Kids must raise at least \$30 in donations to participate. The "A-thon" company will setup flags, inflatables, color, etc. They will man the event. PTO may hire a DJ. Kick-off will be after spring break. The event will be open to members of the community.