

Lincoln Middle School PTO Meeting

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Attendees:

Stuart Eng	Jennifer Rabito	Irene Kappos	Sue Biagi	Jean Costigan
Melanie Lee	Anne Dempsey	Dr. Murray	Mr. Gleason	Wendy Locascio
Faye Manzi	Denise Reeder	Rita Knapp		

Stuart Eng called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

Welcome and Board Introductions

All board members were introduced.

Principal Report

Dr. Murray reported:

- 6th grade orientation went well. The orientation was a little different this year as it was the incoming 6th graders as well as new students from 7th and 8th. He thanked the PTO for their support of the event.
- Completed ROARs week. Thank you to the PTO for the raffle prizes. Students were recognized for good behavior. Chipotle and House of Pancakes donated prizes. We will recognize them on the website.
- Academic goals include:
 - improve student reading
 - compared to like schools. Lincoln ranks with all schools in virtual comparison
 - better than most in math. Jumped 6% in reading progress. Want to do even better.

Improvements to school include:

- Rain garden. Walkways were regraded to improve the lawn.
- New stairwell exits from the gym on both sides
- New windows (glass) in the building
- New roof for the LRC

Vice Principal Report

Mr. Gleason reported that we have had a great start to the year. 6th graders are getting used to the school. Teachers have been really understanding. There is a more visible presence of Dr. Murray and Mr. Gleason in the morning. Having them around before and after school has been a good thing. ROARs week has been underway. Those behaviors have been emphasized.

Parent night we had a great turnout at homework 101. Impressed by the turnout.

Mr. Gleason thanked the PTO for all they do and for the work of the committees.

Teacher Liaison Report

Mrs. Kappos reported on the following:

Melissa Johnson expressed her appreciation for the map. Mr. Taglia thanked the PTO for the support in the broadcasting room.

Mary Jane Warden presented on the vision of 21st century learning spaces. She has started to price out ideas for a learning lab. Some teachers have visited other spaces. They are very motivational for the students. They encourage the PTO to consider supporting the plan for learning spaces at Lincoln.

The gym department will be submitting a grant application to the PTO.

The music department will also be submitting a grant application to the PTO.

Treasurer's Report/Budget

Chase balance: \$11,857

PayPal balance: \$9,664

Total Balance \$21,521

Expenditures to date have been small: Total of \$987 for 6th grade orientation.

Administrative expenses to date have been minimal. Wild Apricot \$838. Teacher luncheon \$275

Revenue this year includes spirit wear payment from last year \$1100

Communication Committee Report

The committee will be posting certain things on the website to show what we've spent. It is important for parents to see where the membership dues are spent.

306 paid memberships to date. This is an improvement over last year. Teacher memberships (about 25 of the 306) are only about half of last year.

We are now completely self serve when joining the PTO. We need help from Dr. Murray to get the word out from here. There are many benefits to joining including the directory and weekly newsletters. There is a lot of information for parents in the newsletter.

PTO Event Update

Dining Fundraisers. Last year we did a number of fundraisers. We would like to continue this year.

Star Wars event. We are planning to sponsor an event for the opening of Star Wars again and will coordinate a dining fundraiser again at Pot Bellys or Chipotle.

Halloween Social for the 6th graders is planned for October 28. We have 10 volunteers but no chair. However, the committee feels like they can do it without a chair.

Spirit Wear free shipping is no longer available. However, the spirit wear is available all year.

Teacher Grants. We have received a few already. We would like to look back at those that have been approved in the past and include them in the budget.

One grant coming is request for transportation to monthly soup kitchen. Teachers used to drive but found out that it is against district policy. The district will provide transportation through November. However, transportation is needed for the months following.

Approval of Minutes May 12, 2016

Jennifer Rabito motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Ann Dempsey seconded the motion. The May 12, 2016 minutes were approved.

New Business

Dr. Murray passed along information for the promotion dance. We end the school year on Thursday, June 1. Promotion will be on the evening of June 1. Great America is on Tuesday, May 30. They propose to do the promotion dance on Wednesday, May 31. We decided to do it that date.

Denise Pearl from Emerson PTO suggested a joint event with Lincoln such as a color run. We will consider a joint event with Emerson.

Mrs. Reeder is offering the copier that we bought in 2007 back to us. We are going to offer to a Catholic Mission, Our Lady of Angels. She would also like us to consider hosting book clubs. The first book would be Fall Down 7 Times, Get Up 8 by Debbie Silver. Some teachers attended a workshop with this book as the topic. The librarian will put together a summary of a proposed book club. We will move forward with it and come up with a date.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm