

PTO Meeting

October 15, 2013

Parents: 21 parents

Teachers: 2 teachers and Tom

Amanda: Site Council Report. During monthly PTO meeting, a Site Council parent rep usually gives a brief report on what they talked about at the meeting.

Site Council is the state mandated group of parents, teachers, admin and classified staff who work to make decisions about the school. They use the decision making grid, which shows what decisions are made by which groups of people at the school.

Site Council meetings are open to anyone. You are welcome to participate but not vote. This month they reviewed the decision making matrix. Want to update and offer students more voice in the decision making of the school. They are figuring out where would that make the most sense. Tons of great ideas and at the next meeting, they will discuss what those options will be.

EEF Grants. Teachers submit those, and SC approves and submits.

Looking for funding for the story teller and an amazing project for the 4/5th with Donna. Grant money would bring Science instruments into the building. Technology component. Donna went to NOA and did professional development. Kids can use an app to become citizen scientists and add to the NOA database of organisms.

EEF would provide ipods, and other science things which would become property for the whole school.

General school improvement.

Vets Club Dance Party. Cost came in pretty high. Without a real clear revenue stream from it, we would have to use PTO funds to pay for the party. Not accessible to the entire group. Not a good fundraising event. Might be a great community event, but it's not inclusive. Didn't mesh with the values.

Amanda: Direct donation Drive. The good news is that it is getting some momentum. Collected about \$5600 right now, but the goal is \$23K and for the year a minimum of \$75K to put us in at the bare minimum for next year.

PTO is going to have to pay part of a FTE for next year.

Is there a way to do some auction items? Bud wants to find a way to still be able to do auction item.

Maybe the dance would get partnered with a small auction.

Sherrie: Parking cars at EWEB on Saturday. Camas receives \$10/car. Starting 3pm until about 7:30pm. Feel free to stop by and see if they need some help.

Diane needs Volunteers for Health Screening; Vision and Dental for 1st-5th graders. Needs 10 volunteers from about 8-10:30am. Contact Diane if you want to help.

Sherrie for Penny; Meeting this Thurs 10/24 at 2:15, outside office to begin planning for Harvest Festival for Nov 15th.

Picture day Friday, talk to Diane if you want to help.

Sarah, Skate World community fun event has been changed to January 25th.

Sarah: Matching Grant Project. Heather has thrown it out there that the SE Neighbors association has a matching grant program. Like the outdoor classroom. Come up with an idea and get the ball rolling. Ideas for beautifying the foot bridge? It really is a beacon to neighborhood. Chain link fence, make it look better. What could we do that was still within regulations for the district? Ideas?

Student voice would be useful in this arena.

Fundraising opportunities. EEF takes 10%. 5% for grants that go back to schools. 5% in equity in admin costs. Combined and a lot of it comes back.

Another possible program. Prang. They have art supplies and you can send in the PRANG and Ticonderoga bar codes. If someone wants to volunteer to get this set up, that would be great.

Get your holiday tree and décor at Spring Creek Holly farm in Leaburg. Mention Camas Ridge and we get 50% of whatever is sold. Tell your friends and relatives.

Kirsten; Restaurant of the Month club. November 13th is Roaring Rapids. 9 different restaurants. Send ideas to KHL. Flyers will be in the Friday folder. We don't have a lot of control over the night. Red Robin raffle at end of the year. Save receipts of at least \$10. \$100 to RR and something from Café Yumm. Pilot year. We will see what does well and what doesn't. Will know where to target next year.

Oregon Savings plan promoting reading.

<https://www.oregoncollegesavings.com/news/readinginvestment.shtml>

See it in online, kids get a gift bag and school could get \$500.

Tom; Lots of great things going on.

Lots of energy around project based learning. Over the summer and Oct 4th were days for this.

Teachers and staff are in agreement. Critical features. Makes us unique. Rigorous units. Even Kinder will be in on it this year. A lot of deep thought and commitment and agreement on part of staff about best practice for Camas. Different classes; Social studies, geography. Deep thinking. Power of play. Competing interests around 30 min of physical ed a day. But there is no time to do it all.

Essential questions for the kids in power of play. Tom asked the kids to help him come up with a solution for the physical activity part. How much can they do?

Community time class is connecting with community living projects. Creating an environment in which we want our kids to learn. Respectful, calm, learning.

Triangle concepts. Celebrations around those. Promoting each concept. Build momentum around them.

Community time will have a leadership position to put order and substance to create an environment we want. Rejects bullying and harassment.

Creating as we go. Never been a school so willing to create as we go. Student voice. Kids love community time. Two reps from each community time classroom. Problem/question. Sweet calm safe transition in the school.

Lots of conversations about the multiage projects. 1-5 and not just 4/5. Presents opportunities. Presents challenges, especially with rigorous academic courses.

Course descriptions before projects. Not quite done with this yet, but in the works. Could do smaller projects in community time., maybe an art or science. Kids are already in groups.

Putting together a tech team. How using technology in projects and curriculum. We have one or two staff meetings that will be dedicated to professional development and the community living.

Working and learning together. Walking the walk of project based learning. Moving in a really good direction.

Understand who we are and want to make it powerful and strong. Three project based and two art blocks.

Nike Project. Someone will look into their grant money.

4/5th grade outdoor school. Exciting. Had staff at marine science institute this summer. Looking good. Excited about doing fieldwork.

Able to get two additional math classes. Using reserves that are part of the school's general budget. Past saved for furniture or technology. Unblend 2/3 math and the 4/5 math. Lee is working with 2/3.

Monday starts an additional 5th grade math class. Lower class size. Provide better math.

Had eyes on the sock hop money to do it, but was decided not to because it was earmarked for pe and music. That was prior to us getting more PE and music than we thought. Site council will make that decision.

Be careful how we spend the money. Site Council/ PTO/ Kids, staff will discuss. Reserves funds were not parent generated money. \$16K of reserve for math. Tom serves on Superintendent Cabinet so district gives \$4K to the school for Tom to be gone. Tom is donating that money to Camas.

Serious money challenges for next year. Important to always spend your money as advertised. On the other hand, things have changed. Enrollment is down 50. Really clear in the spring when allocated based on 390 and not 430.