

PTO Meeting

October 21, 2014

Parents: 14

Teachers: 2 and Tom

Direct Drive is at \$2360, which is LOW. We use this money to cover a lot of staffing. Parent suggested envelopes would be helpful for the direct drive donations to get back to school. Also, a deadline. Heather will oversee getting these put in Friday folders.

Tag testing this Friday. Talk to Tom.

Restaurant of the Month: Laughing Planet, Tuesday next week, October 28th.

Chipotle on Nov 20th. This has been a very successful one in the past. Buy giftcards for the holidays!

Donna speaks about project based learning (PBL)

What is it and why?

Borrowed from the Academy of Arts and Academics in Springfield. Projects based in this model.

EXPLORE DESIGN CREATE DEFINE OWN

PBL lows through everything we do now. Math, problem solving.

There has been lots of professional development around PBL. Inspired from The Buck Institute of Education. In the refine phase at PBL as a staff. Really focused on the in depth inquiry piece. How do we get student engaged? Staff did an in depth inquiry of in depth inquiries.

Projects starting:

Grades 2 and 3 are signing up for areas of interest. Project time in the afternoon. They will get placed in projects. They will not be sitting with Language teacher all day. Students are working on *Friend or Foe* and identifying bugs in our garden. Scientific observations and research. Working on signage out in the garden.

Do you speak for trees? Where paper comes from ? Recycling

Heroes. What makes a hero? Who is a hero to you?

Maps; papier mache and making globes

On the Move, a look at migration. How animals move , etc?

Projects are about 4 hours per week.

Up in the 4th and 5th wing...

The child gets to pick and the sheet doesn't get to go home. Guidance. Kids are learning to take responsibility. Try to pick things that they haven't done. Teachers have records of past years.

Rocket Science; exploring types and designs of rockets

Green team investigation projects. Carbon footprint. Can one person make a difference?

Outdoor survival. If you were lost outdoors what would you do?

Students newspaper. Explore, what is news, what do people want to read. Ethical issues.

Something to talk about. Program where kids do research and interviews around city and interview.

Music projects. Switch off for different ages of project time. Things around music technology.

Project time will be about 18-22 hours in about 3-4 weeks.

Next block will be Art Block projects. Every teacher chooses an art to teach. Little shorter with 12-15 hours, though January. Then project, then art for the rest of the year.

Very often they show their work in projects in an art form. School wide in spring projects around science.

1st graders will join 2/3 and third graders will join 4/5 later.

Two students wanting to create a two project plan. Art then performing arts. Students with a concept. Teachers and Tom are trying to make this happen.

New Eugene city hall. Donna meeting with the design team. Invited Camas students to meet with team. Dimensions of lobby space and court yard. PBL learning throughout the school year. Working with Prairie Mountain 4th graders. Students will create and design, then Design team will pick winner to present to city hall planning.

Art Walk in January.

Common Core at SEHS last night. Several small groups asked about the arts. Common Core has a strong bias toward PBL. Good place to line up with more rigorous academics later.

Project Based Learning is also about analyzing the project and breaking down the problem, to figure out what tools you need to solve it.

Tom; Site Council. School improvement. Pretty exciting music thru January, then February PE starts. SC to approve usage of the \$14K from sock hop-a-thon two years ago for PE or music. SC agrees to

allocate \$3-5K for a music residency Feb-June. Tom Cramer to step in and do that. SC approved it. Maximum spending of \$5K. Present at Nov 13th with nuts and bolts.

School improvement team. Invite parent reps to meet with Tom prior to meetings to get up to speed with some of the other non-parent issues. Very important. SC decides how the fundraising and donations are spent.

We are a restless school that is always looking to improve. Community Living Project. Discipline, culture, feel of buildings. Inclusion assembly Friday. Finished mural . Took 4 months. Every teacher has agreed to work on writing as a goal. Making sure every student meets or exceeds goals . That they feel valued, confident and successful .

Camas has a staff that are driven to improve. Dream for an administrator.

Parent conferences coming up soon.

Halloween coming up. Serpentine costume parade. PM kinders will do something.

December 12-13-14. Dancing Weasel Toy store. 20% kickback to Camas. Stock up on holiday and birthday gifts!

Garden update. Lots done . Ginger and Heather attended school garden meeting. COntinung to work with them. Jessica and Heather working Eco Schools network. Help connect parents with sustainable issues. Out of Portland.

STEM project Donna and Ben, are getting rain barrels for storm water education.

Suggestions for next PTO. Soup Salad Bread potluck. Nov.

Nadine is organizing an escrip campaign in December.

Parent Latino night coordination.

418-420 students enrolled. We are maxed. Closed to transfers.

4J Full time Kinder should start next fall, but the funds have to come through.

Friday November 14th. Harvest Festival. Penny needs help. 6:30-8pm

Bowling Nov 8th. 3-6ish Southtowne Lanes. Taking over the bowling alley. Can bring own food. Ticket prices include shoes.

