



Dilworth PTA – Minutes for November Committee Chair Meeting
November 19, 2014

The meeting began at 7:45 in the cafeteria.

PTA President Report: Allison Malloy

- Allison thanked all committees for all of their hard work.
- Need a new Media Support Co-chair as the current one stepped down.
- Tuesday Dec 9th Committee Chairs are invited to Allison's house in the morning for Holiday Brunch. Time is to be determined. Invitations will be sent out.

Principal Report: Terry Hall

- Enrollment: 701
- Grade structuring: 5th grade is departmentalized, 4th grade self contained, 3rd grade is divided in 2 teaching teams, 2nd grade is self contained and 1st grade is leveled across all 7 teachers. Always changing based on students needs. Teachers do "child study meetings" on a regular basis to make sure the grouping being used for each grade is working. The current grouping is working very well in all grades.
- Staffing changes:
 - o Kathleen Lorenzo left and has been replaced by Amy Boykin in the front office.
 - o Rosemary has announced retirement and she will be gone as of Christmas Break. A retirement reception will be held for her on December 18th at 3pm. Details to follow.
 - o Tyler Buchanan (5th grade) will be leaving, exact date to be determined. A new 5th grade teacher will be hired.
 - o Hired a new floating staff member. Working out really well to help with remedial support as well as enrichment support.
- Testing: 2nd round of map testing is currently being completed.
- Common Assessments in math for pre/post tests are being completed. Teachers are finding these assessments very helpful to know where each child may need additional help or enrichment. Re-teaching and re-testing is occurring to get all students to 84% level.
- 100% of 5th graders are doing the science fair. Students will be supported as needed. Judging will be 5 adults judges as well as 5 high school judges from Myers Park.
- Math Night: To be held on 1/22. Ms. Snyder will find another person to help with planning of this event since Mr. Buchanan is leaving.
- Dragon Houses: Meetings are held weekly instead of bi-weekly with 2 grade levels. Still have quarterly celebrations. Bonus points for dismissal helped with a less chaotic dismissal.
- Sister School:
 - o Briarwood Academy will be Dilworth's new official sister school. Dilworth went through the CMS School Mates application process to adopt this school.
 - o Briarwood is truly in need: The school has obtained Title 1 funds due to 100% poverty. Huge number of truly homeless kids.
 - o A canned food drive, uniform drive (with some of the Tip the Scales funds) will be planned immediately.

- o The school has a new principal that hired 21 new teachers at the beginning of the year. 10 Dilworth teachers have agreed to buddy with Briarwood teachers for morale building/training.
 - o The annual Hat/Mitten/sock drive from Kindergarten will be given to sister school.
 - o Grades 1-5 have a coat drive.
 - o Teachers will do an underwear drive.
 - o Family donations to Tip the Scales will be able to be allocated specifically for sister school.
 - o Ms. Hall wants Dilworth PTA to help model the Briarwood PTA with Briarwood parents. The hope is to be very hands on in our support for the new sister school.
- Ms. Hall has heard no information on potential of re-zoning. The date for re-zoning has passed for next year.
 - American Education Week: During American Education Week, Principal Hall and VP McKinney are doing some special things for teachers. This is not actual Teacher Appreciation Week. Teacher Appreciation Week is in the spring.

SPARK Final Report: Nathan

- Contributions: 72K
- Corporate matches are around 3K
- Total: around 75K
- 70% participation with around 35,000 hours of reading
- Last year was 64K but about same % participation. Increase is a result of larger enrollment.

Book Fair: Rebecca

- Huge thanks for all volunteers.
- \$18,314 gross income including about \$2,000 in teacher gifts and \$1,800 in SPARK gift certificates.
- All teacher money spent.
- Profit: \$4,578 (Dilworth gets 20% of gross receipts)
- Earned: \$250 worth of free books. This money was used for a 5th grade book set that was needed.

Tip the Scales:

- Kicks off 11/19.
- Some of the items that the PTA hopes to buy with the funds raised: 5 ipad centers in every classroom is the biggest item on wish list (we would need 105 new ipads), large classroom rugs, new die-cut machine (8K), save for potential need of a new fish tank pump, level readers.
- Fundraiser ends 2/20.
- The new sister school, Briarwood Academy, needs a lot of support and the hope is that families will allocate some of their donations to the sister school.

Family Events:

- Student Basketball night: went well but discussed that we may need to make some changes due to the growing school. Food went well and teachers were a great support.
- Mother/Son Bowling: 2/8
- Father/Daughter Dance: 3/20

School Beautification:

- Clean up Day: Sunday, Nov. 23 at 1pm. All families encouraged to help. Rain cancels.

School Tours:

- Consistently every Tuesday at 9:30 with 2-3 families. Going well.

Prospective Parent open house: Over 120 parents representing 72 families attended.

Yearbook: Using a new company this year. Let Katie Tebbitt or Tammy Jones know if you have pictures

from events.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30am.