**Roosevelt PTO Meeting**

**Meeting in person in Roosevelt Multi-Purpose Room**

**Friday, October 7, 2022 8:30am**

**Present:** Larry Garstki, Melissa Lutz, Katie Bevan, Julie Daly, Anna Cook, Michelle Taylor, Amy Prestes, Dawne Simmons, Megan Kinsella, Rebecca Clarkson, Beth Vlerick, Vicky Freund, Lailana Workman, Pam Wynne, Gen Jones, Laura Husbey, Sara Wienkes, Gwynne Birkel

*Meeting called to order at 0835am. Beth Vlerick moved to approve the minutes from September 2022; they were seconded by Katie Bevan meeting approved.*

**Treasurer Report,** Amy Hansmann

Looks like fun lunch has earned $2300 so far as our portion.

**Principal Report,** Larry Garstki

We have MAP scores from fall testing. Importance of MAPS testing. Use the data but doesn’t tell complete story about student. High scores usually indicate that student is good memorizer. Lower scores indicate that there are different learners. Can still be successful students. First live staff meeting with 100 staff. Talked about non classroom time that all are following expectations of student. Want to find balance for kids to be respectful but being active. Trhying to discuss how to talk to kdis about changing behavior so it is appropriate at school. Teachers are working hard. All school assembly at beginning of school – talk about norms at school. Going to have assembly at end of 1st quarter. It’s a process – want kids to be nicer to eacher other.

Halloween – will have music during passing period. If goes well, will add fun Friday where kids can choose music for passing period. Trying to do some decorations for Halloween. Not sure where we will get them. Art club is also making Halloween decorations.

Field day was last Friday. Very successful and fun event.

Student Newspaper – Kids produced a newspaper.

Lockdown drill with police is next Tuesday around 10:30. Doors are locked and moved away from windows. Kids can be scared by drill. Talk to students to calm fears.

Teacher observations – Larry gets to go through classroom. He sits with kids doing activities. Block scheduling – teachers should have 2 breaks. Has lunch with various groups of kids to talk about issues. Block scheduling is still a transition. Teachers are starting to do activities that take longer.

Parent teacher conferences will be remote, most likely.

**Teacher Liaison Report,**

**Co-President Report,** Melissa Lutz/Sarah Donoho

Town Hall is on 10/17.

One district/many voices (Dawne Simmons)– night of stories. Families of grade 4-8 and tell about belonging or not. See how others see the world through stories. Need volunteers and people to share stores. Want to encourage students to participate. People can talk for 2-3 minutes about how they didn’t feel like they belong. Can also do interview style with 2 people. Event will be on Jan 25 at Roosevelt. Will record event in some sort of fashion. Will have its own place on district website. If too many stories the some can be prerecorded. There is link to examples in the district update email. Mrs. Zinger will help with community.

We have yard signs for those who have donated. Sarah has delivered. More are ordered.

**Committee Reports**

**8th Grade Coordinator –** 8th grade field day team recap

It was a beautiful day. We 167 8th graders participated. Stranger Thing theme. 8 different station with one being service project. Made cards for seniors. Had a 140 cards. Going to Sheridan. Came under budget. Reached out to Mrs. Saunders so multi need kids could participate. Palace arcade in the MPR along with twister. Twister was very popular. Mr. Garski was slimed by each 8th grader – 10 gallons over 2 hours. Thank you to volunteers. Tug of war was very popular and cheap. We were able to use field after getting park district approval. Committee is divided between keeping it in fall or moving to spring.

**Fun Lunch,**  Anna Cook

Work in progress. Will be tweaking some of the vendors. Marla has been on site. Has a coordinator that is designated to our school. They are very on top of things. Might be getting rid of starship – breakfast. Taco 76 and panda express are possibilities. Smoothies are very popular. Making adjustments to menu items. Changes to rooms will be done by Marla’s. Need to communicate to parents that they don’t need to make room changes. Volunteers are great.

**7th Grade Social – Pam Wynne**

Coming up on Oct. 28th. Social is 7-9m, includes dance, movie, candy walk, photo booth. Decorations will be purchased. Candy and all supplies are donated. Sign up genius will go in this weekend for volunteers. IT department will help with movie (Beetlejuice). No food allowed in auditorium. Snacks have not been approved. Working with Gina about what is approved – water, z bar. Need to finalize food options. Non 7th grade parents will be asked to volunteer at dance.

**Spelling Bee** **–**

Back in person in 2 years. Shiba and Mrs. Peterson will be helping. Deadline to sign up is 10/12. Have 23 kids signed up so far. Grade level spelling bee is 10/18. School wide spelling bee is week later.

**5th Grade Coordinator** –Megan Kinsella

Holiday parties are coming back for 5th grade. Parties are 8:30 –9:30 on 10/29. Light snacks will be allowed and confirmed with Gina Hardy (skinny popcorn and oranges). Blast will come out in Bulletin. Looking for 3 volunteers for each classroom. Will come up with games and oversee service project. Will make quilted blankets which will be donated to Hebzibah. Blankets will be precut with slits so that kids only knot the blankets. Will not do a holiday party. Will check with 5th grade team about valentine party.

Having 5th grade social on Nov. 3rd at Old School. Need to expand how the event is communicated to families.

**Inclusion and belonging**, Beth Vlerick and Rebecca Clarikson

Rebecca and Beth work with Board and several committee. How can we focus on inclusivity with events at school. Want to create a sense belongingness. How would you feel walking into a room where everyone is ready for an event that you were not ready for it. There are many examples of people who might feel like they don’t belong – neuro atypical, minority, single parents. Inclusivity doesn’t just include race – incudes socio economic, gender identity, academic ability, etc. What can we do? Passed out Parent Organization Equity and Inclusion Tool Dos and Don’ts handout. Will include the handout in Bulldog Bulletin. Handout include six buckets – First one is communication. Need to make sure we are communicating in a way that will reach many different groups. Have people introduce themselves to demonstrate inclusivity. Have a broad definition of volunteering – all can’t volunteer the same way. Donation of time or goods is a valuable as monetary donation. What is one thing that we can do to foster inclusivity and belongingness? PTO wants to be collaborative with teachers and school. PTO has started up social events – we want to do what we can to be inclusive. Not everyone wants social interactions, Do we want to go back to the way things were before Covid? We should reevaluate what we are doing. Will continue to work with committees at Lincoln and Willard as well as the Board.

Working with Julie Daly. Noticed decline in parent participation in parent teacher conferences. 8th grade parents don’t usually come to have many conferences.

If there are families that can’t afford events, can we have scholarships available. Hopefully would allow for more to participate.

Great turnout for PTO meeting; how can we get more to participate?

Would like to do survey to committee leaders about how events went with inclusivity

**G4G -**

10/12 is walk to school day. Renee counted 475 bikes at school yesterday. 100 more than more than normal. Pumpkin smash is 11/5, 9-12 at Roosevelt. Lunch waste – working with engineers to help eliminate waste. Eco warriors making video on how to sort waste. Trying to figure out how to recycle fun lunch materials.

**PIMA** –

Fun lunch on 10/31 for band and orchestra students - Would like to expand fun lunch to entire school one time only for holiday. Armands – cheese pizza, drink and cupcake (vanilla or chocolate). Each kid gets a bag with drink and cupcake. Might do trick or treat bags. All proceeds will go to PIMA. Will need a few extra volunteers. No November fun lunch. Doing dine and share in November. April 21st is A little night music event.

**Family Care (****Gwynne Birkel)**

First request came in to cover pictures. Request should be anonymous.

**New Business** –

Mrs. Stearns won huge award. Will do flowers and gift card from PTO. Looking to see if any media outlets can do story on her.

Next meeting November 4th

Meeting Adjourned 10:09am