

PSO Meeting
February 20th, 2020
Mary Woodward Makerspace, 6:30 pm

Board Members Present: Cyndi Clere, Erin Buck, Kristi Sloan, Jen Vasicek

1. Call to order, introductions were made.

2. Principal's Report:

- Erin's Law (handout): A Parent Night will be held to review how TTSD will be handling this 2015 law. Mr. Nihill will review requirements and have open discussion night for parents. TTSD will have 4 instructional lessons for classes K-12. Lesson content will be adapted to grade levels. Teachers will be trained on Monday, March 30th. The 4 lessons will be taught school-wide over 4 consecutive days in the later part of May (dates TBD). Parent meeting will be held in mid-April, giving parents 4+ weeks to review material being presented. Parents can opt their kids out of these lessons. Similarly, 5th graders get human development education (Mr. Nihill teaches boys, 5th Grade teachers teach girls). The instructions for Erin's Law will be performed every year and will be 4 days in a row so as to comply with this law.
- Updates from Staff Development Day (Friday, Feb 14):
 - o Great day for the staff.
 - o John Potter (works at TTSD district office) shared with the staff about different types of learning, for students coming in to K at different levels.
 - o Lindsey Pratt and Alfonso Romerez shared about students that are dealing with trauma (separated households, abuse, moving, etc...), how to recognize the symptoms, and how MW should adapt instructions to these kids.
 - o Discussed Dibels results.
- Updates on Winter Dibels Results (handout):
 - o Mr. Nihill shared the Dibels results from Winter. DORF is oral reading fluency. Reading Rocks is support for 'Intensive' and 'Strategic' students.
 - o The MW staff have '100% Meetings' where they review the results and look at individual test scores. The meetings look at the kids that moved from 'Core' to 'Strategic' and 'Intensive'. They also look at the kids that move from 'Intensive' to 'Strategic' and to 'Core'. They set new goals for the Fall. Add more supports to compensate for the scores and assessments. Adjust kids in reading groups (walk-to-read program). Scores from end-of-unit test are also used for reading groups placement. Great test scores!
 - o In Kindergarten, NWF (nonsense words) showed 86% of kids at or above benchmark. The composite scores increased from 74% to 85% for Core Support. Amazing!
 - o 1st Grade changed from 37% to 71% for Core in DORF-Words Correct. Similarly, DORF Accuracy went from 38% to 74% for 1st Grade. The 1st Grade had a huge change in results, with kids learning to read sentences. Wow!
 - o 2nd Grade doesn't typically see any growth with Dibels. Historically MW has seen regression from Fall to Winter testing, but this year the 2nd Graders stayed consistent! DORF Words Correct went from 69% to 71% and Accuracy stayed at 71% from the Fall. Way to go!
 - o 3rd Grade had similar results to 2nd Grade. Passages in 3rd grade are more challenging (longer passages, comprehension). 3rd Grade focuses on transition from 'learning to read' to 'reading to learn'. DORF Words Correct went from 74% to 76%. 'Intensive' dropped from 14 to 10 kids. Accuracy increased from 73% to 79% for Core Support.
 - o 4th Grade implemented a new support program ('Rewards') to help with fluency and accuracy. This new program saw some great gains! DORF Words Correct went from 68% to 81% and Accuracy went from 66% to 87%! This is amazing! In the Accuracy, the # of Intensive students dropped from 23 to 4 students! Awesome! We have very competitive kids, but MW staff are working to improve their accuracy (not skip lines, skip words, etc...).
 - o 5th Grade goal is to work on accuracy. The Accuracy increased from 65% to 80%! The DORF Words Correct dropped a little from 71% to 69%. Staff will now 'spin the plate' and come back to focus on the 'words correct' portion of this fluency with 5th Graders. For 5th grade students in 'Intensive' they will have support at Fowler (special programs). MW transfers information to Fowler for those students.
- Questions from attendees:
 - o Fly-up Day for 5th Graders? Yes, there will be one this year. No date has been set yet, but it will be very similar process as in past years.
 - o K Roundup: what are the current numbers? Mr. Nihill shared that we are a little bit ahead on registrations (39 kinders so far) and there are several kids in the queue for registration. MW is hoping to maintain 4 Kinder classrooms next year. On a related note, the next SSA meeting is coming up next week (Feb 26th). The district will share latest proposals on how to use funding. A priority for the district is maintaining smaller class sizes.

- Will there be siblings transfer next year? Yes, but this is contingent on permission from the other district. Mr. Nihill shared that MW is open to transfers for siblings, however MW is not open for new transfers. MW is the 2nd biggest elementary school in the district. For sibling transfers, Mr. Nihill says to contact him directly. More transfers are expected as the Roy Rogers housing development continues.

3. President's Report:

a. Secretary Position

- Kristi Sloan is now working full time and is not able to attend PSO meetings held during the day. Lindsay Clough has offered to take over the PSO Secretary responsibilities through the end of the school year. Cyndi asked for a motion to accept Lindsay as secretary.
 - o Motioned: Jen Vasicek
 - o Seconded: Erin Buck
 - o All in favor, no opposed.

b. PSO Board and Committee Chairs for 2020-2021

- Danielle Smart will be President next year. All other PSO positions are available (President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Coordinator, etc...)
- Nominating committee with begin in March 1st (committee with be 2 board members, 4 open members); PSO position voting will take place during the May PSO meeting.
- PSO Board is looking for committee chairs. New board will review each committee near the end of this year. Observations: volunteer force is not as plentiful as in years past. People are willing to take on discreet tasks but not willing to chair committees or lead main events. The 2020-2021 PSO Board will need to determine if events should continue separately or be merged (i.e. Daughter-Dance + Son-Dance, Science Fair + Maker Space Fair).

4. Review and Approve January 2020 Minutes:

- The minutes were reviewed by attendees. Cyndi asked for a motion to accept the minutes.
 - o Motioned: Jen Vasicek
 - o Seconded: Erin Buck
 - o All in favor, no opposed.

A special thank you from Mr. Nihill for the T.V.! It has been very nice, to see pictures of the students. Mr. Nihill mentioned that Mrs. Darr is responsible for the T.V. content and anyone should see her to add things.

5. Committee Reports:

a. Treasurer's Updates

- Company matches still coming in from Jog-A-Thon. Over \$40,000 for Job -A-Thon. Need to confirm expenses for website (online donations).
- Money is now coming in from the Spring Auction sales: tickets, buy-in parties.
- 1099s were sent out in January
- Questions from attendees:
 - o How are we doing with family events? We are making money (~\$4,021) on the family events. They are not supposed to be fundraisers (goal is to break-even).

b. Volunteer Update

- Jen Vasicek spoke about the following volunteer opportunities:
 - o Movie Night (Fri Feb 21) – only 2 volunteers signed up as of today
 - o Son Event (Fri Mar 13) – all positions filled (27 out of 27)
 - o Auction Baskets – 30 out of 48 positions (but had posted 2 spots for each class). Only 1 class hasn't filled, Johnston (new 5th Grade teacher this year). Lindsay Clough (Auction Co-Chair) shared that it is acceptable not to have a basket from this class as other classes are doing 2 donations.
- Jen shared the following are new volunteer opportunities that will be posted online soon:
 - o Spring Auction (Sat Apr 4)
 - o Book Fair (April 14-17)
 - o Garden Cleanup (TBD)
 - o Multi-Cultural Fair (moved to Apr 17). On Feb 26th there is a meeting for interested parents. Mr. Nihill will be point person for this fair.
- Other updates:
 - o All committees have position availabilities
 - o Vinyl Banners: 2 of 3 have been made. The banners look really good. Plan is to attach banners to front of Bike Shelter (great visibility)

c. Science Fair Recap

- 66 kids signed up this year. This number is half that of previous years. Drop in attendance could be because Science Fair was moved to Jan (in years past the fair was in November).
- Committee is thinking of moving Science Fair to February next year (with kick off in New Year).
- May add food to the evening event next year. Will work on encouraging this event as a family activity to increase involvement.
- Tried to bring in engineering method, collections from nature, in addition to traditional scientific method. Only 2 were used this year – model and scientific method. May provide picture of scientific method, picture of model method, picture of engineering method, etc... to get kids more interested next year.
- Question from attendee: How much more support will be needed next year? Looking for 1 more parent with a passion for Science to partner with Lindy. If not, she will send out specific volunteers for the different events (i.e. in-class demonstrations).

d. Movie Night Update

- Scheduled for tomorrow (Fri Feb 21). We will be watching Trolls. This is the third and final movie night. Pizza and popcorn will be available. Will be trying to reduce paper usage; asking people to BYOB: 'bring your own bowl' for popcorn.
- Questions from attendees: What will we do if Danielle cannot be here as Night Monitor? Jen Vasicek will cover. Mr. Nihill will not be present but will make sure everything is set-up.

e. Daughter Dance Recap

- Great turn-out! May have made a profit. Florist donated 70% of profits to PSO. Need to finalize the expenses.
- 4 stations were set-up at the entry (1 for cash payments). These kept things moving, so that there was good flow at entry and with flower pickup.
- No issues with cash at entry; almost ran out of \$5's at the Glow sales table.
- Dan did a great job with the music and getting people active.
- Glow items were a huge hit! This should definitely be included for future events.
- Questions from attendees: How was the new Sensory Area? It was a nice idea, but the tent was not used very much. The craft area was a huge success and helped those who needed a break from the music.
 - Action Item: need to send out Thank you card to Florist (Cyndi offered to take this action item)

f. Ambassador Legacy Gift

- Background: there is leftover funds from past Ambassador projects (2015-2019). Couldn't expand playground with more swings because we could not expand the concrete area. The plan is to remove the 1 swing structure that is not being used.
- Kim submitted proposal to spend the \$8,600 leftover funds (handout)
 - o \$3,200 for water fountains
 - o \$5,400 for Nicole's projects (or \$4,000 to Nicole's projects and \$1,400 for other projects)
- Kim estimates \$1,000 of proceeds for 2019-2020. She is proposing to give this money to the library for non-fiction books. They would like to spend this money now before the 5th graders leave so that the books can have stickers added to the book inside cover.
- Concerns raised by PSO Board members that leftover funds cannot be applied to a project that has not been approved by the TTSD.
 - o Water fountain project is approved. Reduced pricing \$3,200 (need \$3,081.11 for 2 fountains). Electrical is not included in this pricing; Jen V assumes that electrical work will be donated.
 - o Nicole's Staff Room Remodel project is not yet approved (would need to hold the funds until the project is approved).
 - o Purchase of Library books would not require approval.
- Mr. Nihill presented a new legacy gift idea: Bookworm Vending Machine. Kids earn tokens for positive behavior and then can get a book from the vending machine. This idea came from Melanie Bailey and would encourage reading fluency and positive behavior. Machine Cost is \$3,500. The ongoing costs for books would be covered by MW Staff. If approved, the Ambassadors could put a big donation plate on the front of the machine.
- Question from attendee: How does Kim spend the leftover Ambassador funds? No motion is required, the Ambassador committee just needs to tell the PSO Board how the money will be spent and then receipts would be submitted to Treasurer to use those funds.
- Based on this information, the Ambassadors have agreed to:

- Allocate \$3,200 of historical funds to the water fountain project.
- Allocate \$3,500 of historical funds to the Bookworn Vending Machine.
- Leftover funds (~\$1900) would be held for Staff Room Upgrades.

g. OBOB Recap

- Very successful tournament. Regionals are in March. Jamboree next week. Some titles for next year have already been chosen (6 out of 16 already selected).
- Biggest take-away: Mrs. Bailey will not be running this program next year and Mrs. Zell is also out for next year.
- Next year, this event will now fall back onto PSO volunteers. A parent with a child involved in the event cannot have access to the questions in advance. A parent needs to remain impartial to resolve complaints. One idea: have a team of Grandparents be involved with the judging.
- Some schools do the battles during lunchtime, instead of on a Saturday morning. But this requires parents to volunteer mid-day during the week. Need to define the commitment for this activity. Jen has taken over more involvement in the last few years, but Melanie still had a lot of involvement. A lot of work can be done at home. Team photos need to be taken during the day and Melanie worked with the parents to get sign-ups. If volunteer activities could be broken down, it would be easier for parents to volunteer – but need to get this set-up.

Other Discussions:

h. Son Event

- Stacey Ranft is leading this activity.
- Gym access is set-up for the event and all volunteer positions filled for this event.
- Flyer were put in teachers' boxes earlier this week.
- Stacey is in favor for combined event next year (Daughter-Son Event). Try to get high schoolers to support with crafts, help monitor gym events; would need parents to support money handling activities. May go to 30-minute volunteer time slots to encourage parents to volunteer more for the event.

i. Biography Fair

- Being removed from the curriculum.

j. Staff Room Updates

- Nicole Tankjaer has not yet provided any financial numbers to the PSO for this project.
- The PSO Board needs a detailed list of the project scope in order to get the district approval.
- Note: fundraising for this project should not have started until after it was approved by the district (this is based on the new policy that became effective in Fall 2019). The auction paddle raise money from Spring 2019 is secure, as this was grandfathered-in prior to new policy.

k. Spring Auction

- Ticket sales are slow. Initial feedback is that people are not seeing the information about the Auction. Auction Committee will do a physical mailing to increase awareness (send home flyer with kids). It was also suggested to reach out to teachers and have them put it in their newsletters, as well as have Mrs. Darr send a separate e-mail about the Auction.

New Business:

- Monica Bjers has another dining-out fundraiser being planned for March. Location: Old Spaghetti Factory in Sherwood. Need to firm up date (should know by tomorrow) and get this posted on the school calendar.
- Monica has also secured a connection with the Kona Ice truck and they would be available for the Son Event. They are willing to donate 20% of proceeds from event. Monica's husband has agreed will help with clean-up. Kona Ice is also willing to come to multiple events (Mar 13 for Son Event, May 29 for Carnival Night. Kona Ice is an approved vendor with TTSD).
- Question from attendee: Is Kona Ice exclusive for events? Monica will confirm if they are exclusive (if they have a non-compete clause)
- Question from attendee: Is approval required to bring in food for Auction Buy-In parties? Mr. Nihill confirmed that approval is not required to bring in pre-cooked food (such as Dominos Pizza).