

# **Forest Dale PTO All Parent Meeting**

January 17, 2018 (6:37 pm start)

**Attendance:** Beth Russo, Sara Inskeep, Erin Corwin, Lisa McCoy, Joel Schaafsma, Rachel Cera, Meg Cate, Christa Coleman-Ng, Jenny Miller, Kelly Visser, Connie Brune, Becky Kucharski, Christine Ermel

## **Opening from B. Russo**

**Meeting Minutes:** A motion was given to approve the minutes as written from the September 2017 meeting. The motion was seconded. All were in favor; none opposed.

## **FDE Update (Ms. Sara Inskeep)**

- 671 students current enrollment (up from during break)
- Started NWEA testing, short delay from snow delay day yesterday but on track for completion.
- Kids excited for upcoming Science Night and Valentine's Party. Also planning a door décor contest.
- Building maintenance over break included repairing some ceiling tiles and water from ice. New roof scheduled for improvements this summer.
- Not too much impact from cold/flu going around, building maintenance keeping up with sanitizing desks, common areas, etc.
- --?? about survey via email, any feedback? **A:** Results and program evaluation will be compiled by various committees then made public/presented when complete. Expect some changes next year (i.e. school day times, recess, etc.)
- --?? Attended a presentation on technology this summer, covered kids having various devices available in classroom, any information to share about FDE? **A:** We aren't a 1:1 school...not everyone has one specific to them, but have enough to use as teachers need/see fit. Will FDE go to 1:1? Most likely no, not a current need but may change in future.
- ?? Any word on Superintendent update? **A:** No news yet, unsure of candidates...school board meetings is where we all can find out incoming information.
- ?? Enrollment, especially 4<sup>th</sup> grade seems high/large classes...what is cap on classroom size? **A:** At beginning of year, average sized class (~27)...once school went on, size got up to 30/31. What we thought was best is to hire additional IAs versus creating a new class that pulled students from several classes. ?? Golf course at Carmel/Keystone being rezoned/transferred to single family homes...will this impact future school years/class sizes? **A:** Rezoning should take place in anticipation of this change that helps distribute increased population.

## **Committee Reports/Volunteer Opportunities**

- (B.Russo) Dine-out nights have been very successful this year...thank you for support. Chipotle most recent and well attended. Upcoming: January 24<sup>th</sup> Piada, February 21<sup>st</sup> Bubs Burgers, March 14<sup>th</sup> MacKenzie River Pizza

- (J.Miller) Silent Auction is second largest fundraiser of the year (Fall Fundraiser/Fun'd Run is first). At the District Tap on March 10<sup>th</sup>. We have a start on volunteers for donations/sponsors, various levels for donations, picking up donations, on-site of event, etc. but still need more! "Big ticket" items could include a weekend away, tickets, Conner Prairie and more! Wine/whiskey pull this year. 6 themes for "theme baskets." Any more ideas are welcome.
  - o Also, co-chairs are looking for next year's replacement if anyone interested and/or would like to shadow this year.
- (B.Russo) Book Fair recap, not a PTO fundraiser (operated by PTO) funds received go to Ms. Duffy for Media Center (books, furniture, other media needs). **\$18,000** (highest gross since 2006) All for Books provided 24 with \$20 for books.
- (B.Russo) In general, PTO tries to streamline and provide funding for supporting students without asking for additional funds throughout the year. In addition to this, providing funding for "Large Projects" is an annual goal. So far, two water bottle filling stations were added in the school...suggested by teachers and so far well received and used! Other plans are to install shade on playground (~\$3,000) and additional bike racks. Location/placement will be TBD before/during install by facilities. ?? Can local businesses "sponsor" items such as bench with name, etc...**A:** there are district limitations for putting a name on something on school property. ?? Or offer corporate sponsorship on newsletters to obtain donations for large items.
  - o B.Russo moves to spend up to \$10,000 on playground shade and bike racks. Second by B.Kucharski. All in favor, none opposed.
  - o ?? Any needs from students for water bottles now? **A:** Have been able to provide some from previous years but may have a need in future.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Science Night (registration, volunteering still available) Games/activities geared towards younger/older age levels
- Counselor Appreciation Week February 5-9
- Valentines Room Party February 9
- Silent Auction March 10<sup>th</sup> (at District Tap)
- Spring Break March 30<sup>th</sup>- April 6

### **Questions from PTO**

- ?? How did PTO do at Falcon Fest. **A:** decided not to charge/make a large fundraiser. ~200 came unregistered/cash at door. And raffle items did well.
- Donuts with Dads will have new date, decided this week with some organized supplemental activities (corn hole, photo booth, etc.)
- ?? Possibly consider a changed event from "Mornings with Mom" that doesn't involve sugary breakfasts, early in am...past considerations for a "Daddy/Daughter Dance" or "Snowflake Ball" for families to fill a need of a past retired event put on by Carmel Rec. Center. Another idea being a "Family Tailgate

Event” in Fall, maybe before home football game. Cost for an event similar to this? **A:** Will discuss ideas for future at upcoming Executive Committee Meeting.