

Dec 14, 2023 | Waite Park PTA Meeting

Notes

- Principal's Update - Rochelle McGinness
 - The School Board has selected a new Superintendent. Dr. Lisa Sayles-Adams starts on Feb 5th
 - Beginning in January district staff, school board members and community representatives will be reviewing building space district wide. This review of how spaces are used will inform any future school transformation plans.
 - MPS will unveil a new data dashboard in Jan/Feb. The dashboard will include data about school demographics, attendance, number/ratio of teachers/support staff, MCA for grades 2-5 and FAST test scores, capital improvements in the last 7 years, if a school has air conditioning and safe/secure entrances.
 - MPS created new websites for the district and all schools. www.mpsschools.org Waite Park is still working through changes but the site is almost complete. Feedback is welcome.
 - 2024-2025 School budgets will come out in mid February.
- Reading/Math Interventionist Triad Update - Jenny Bauer
 - An intervention triad is made up of one teacher and two associate educators.
 - Jenny Bauer teacher, Allyson McElligott AE and Laura Tate AE
 - Ms. Bauer has been teaching for 30 years in MPLS schools with 20 years at Waite Park.
 - This is the first year of a new district pilot. All schools received at least one triad.
 - Intervention is a flexible, skill based group designed to catch up students to grade level peers.
 - Reading interventions use the Letterland and PRESS (Path to Reading Excellence in School Sites) curriculums. Both are based on the "Science of Reading" approach.
 - Math interventions use the Bridges curriculum.
 - There are 9 groups each day. 4 math and 5 reading. Students from grades K-5 are served.
 - 61 students receive reading intervention and 33 for math. Additionally, the team can push into kindergarten classrooms for math support.
 - How do they decide who gets intervention?
 - All students get screened through regular FAST testing. This data is coupled with teacher input and diagnostic data dives to determine if intervention is needed.
 - The intervention program uses multi-layered supports: Tier 1 is core instruction. (Classroom instruction) Tier 2 is targeted supplemental instruction and intervention. (Small group instruction) Tier 3 is intensive individual instruction and intervention. (Individual instruction) All tiers are tailored to each student.
 - Progress is monitored weekly/biweekly. Data and observations drive decisions about additional support. Looking at student data, defining goals, planning instructional strategies.
 - PLC (professional learning communities) meet on wednesday mornings with the intervention team to make plans for each student.
 - 4 days of math instruction then a 10 point check on the 5th day. Students who score 70+ move on to the next skill.
 - Groups are re-adjusted frequently
 - Jenny recommends two podcasts about the "Science of Reading."
 - The daily "The Fight Over Phonics" for an overview. "Sold a Story" for a deep dive.
 - Any questions can be sent to jenny.bauer@mpls.k12.mn.us

- Parks Update
 - No updates
- Community Ed Update
 - Winter Session registration will open the week we return to school (Jan 2nd). Flyers will be sent home on January 2nd. The Winter Session will be Jan 22-Mar 14.
- PTA Update
 - Cocoa and Cards in the Cafeteria! (Our first family service night.) - Anika Swanson
 - Roughly 125 people attended on Tuesday December 5th from 5:15-6:15
 - Families crafted cards and ornaments for those in the care of [Gentiva Hospice](#).
 - More family service night ideas are in the works. - Amy Softich
 - Possible next service night will be making no-sew blankets for an animal shelter. Possibility to pair that with a pet food drive and asking for donated materials.
 - North Minneapolis Pet Resource Center?
 - Waite Park Glow Run is coming in February - Tyler Sahnnow
 - Details are being worked out with our fundraising partner Boosterthon.
 - Designs for the glow run t-shirts are being submitted by Ms. L and Ms. Nicole.
 - Business sponsors for the t-shirts are coming in. CasiAnna Olson is coordinating.
 - Want to be a business sponsor and have your logo on our shirts? [Email the PTA](#).
- Treasure's Update
 - Any receipts from Cocoa and Cards in the Cafeteria can be sent to Treasurer Tâm.
- Grants Committee - Laura Green
 - Only one new grant request since the last PTA meeting. Bingo supplies for a schoolwide bingo party tomorrow.
 - \$8,500 left in the grants budget.

Next PTA meeting is Thursday January 11th from 6:30pm - 7:30pm (Meeting over Google Meets.)

- Agenda topics
 - Principal's Update
 - Minneapolis Parks Update
 - Community Ed Update
 - Treasure's Update
 - Grants Committee
 - Yearbook Committee formation - Volunteer to help us create Waite Park's yearbook!
 - Volunteer coordinating for the Glow Run