

## Groveland PTO Meeting Minutes

Location: GPE Library

Date: 10.22.15

Time: 6:00 pm

Attendees: 16

### Agenda Items

1. Review and approval of Sept 2015 meeting minutes.
2. Principal's Report
  - a. **Enrichment Summary** Kindergarten Art (Grand Master Series by Art Resident: Stacie Forbes), 1st Grade (Ezra Jack Keats by Art Resident: Stacie Forbes) 1st/2nd Grade Split (Clay/Social Studies by Art Resident: Stacie Forbes), 2nd Grade (Stepping Stone Theatre and Midwest Food Connection), 3rd Grade (Compas - MN State History), 4th Grade (Compas, Mississippi River), 5th Grade (Northern Clay) Our children enjoy these enrichment programs because of all our fundraising efforts throughout the year. **School Choice Fair** is Saturday, Jan 9th from 9:30 - 2 at Washington Technology. The School Choice Fair is only for PreK and K this year. This is a change from previous years. All schools will hold an open house in January and February for prospective families. You may also contact the Student Placement Center at 651-632-3760 if you have more questions. Becky would like feedback from 5th grade families in regards to information they want when navigating the transition to middle school. Email Rebecca at [rebecca.pedersen@spps.org](mailto:rebecca.pedersen@spps.org) with feedback.
    - One parent expressed concern that the Middle School application and information were not easy to understand. It was expressed that a simple summary of the Middle Schools would be helpful.
3. **Friends of Groveland (GPE PTO Fundraising Arm) Report:**
  - a. Christine Melchart, FOG Chair, explained that our **Direct Drive** has only raised \$3,000 so far compared to \$10,000 in years past. She is hopeful that money is still coming in and that we will reach our \$10,000 direct drive goal. Please consider donating if you have not already. Forms are in the main office.
  - b. **Give to the Max Day** will be held on November 12, 2015. Consider giving your donation on that day. Use the DONATION button on the upper left corner of the home page of our website. Give the Max site charges a 4.5% fee per donation so if you can drop off a check to the main office instead that would save us the 4.5% fee.
  - c. Parents express a need for the DONATE button to be larger so it is more easily found.
  - d. The FOG budget has been about \$40,000. Our fundraising efforts are very important.
  - e. A suggestion was made to have a donation box at all our Groveland events.
  - f. FOG is looking into various fundraising options such as a Run-A-Thon.
6. **Celebrate Groveland Fundraiser** It is being held on Saturday Nov. 7th at the Cinema Ballroom. It is a great way to meet people, have fun, and raise money for the school. There are also many ways to help make this event a success for our school. Attend the bash, be a sponsor, recruit a sponsor, host a Groveland Gathering, make a slideshow, set up and/or break down at the event, and more.

- This is an adults only party fundraiser. Sign up to volunteer at: <http://vols.pt/97qaXU>
  - Learn more about and sign up to host Groveland Gatherings at: <http://goo.gl/forms/B8ZfsZIM8a>
  - Donate to the Charity Auction or to Buy Event Tickets at: [Celebrate Groveland November 2015](#)
4. Classroom Village Chair, Neha Lang, reported on upcoming events.
    - a. **Groveland After Dark is our first school-wide Classroom Village Event you won't want to miss! THURSDAY, October 29th, from 6 - 8:30**
      - Experience a Guided Walk Through A Magical Theater Production
      - Play Flashlight Fun and Games (Bring Your Own Flashlight)
      - March in a Costume Parade (Wear Your Best But Dress Accordingly - THIS IS AN OUTDOOR EVENT) Cider And Cookies (Yum Yum - A Special Treat At The End of Your Theater Journey)
      - To Volunteer for this event please sign up at <http://vols.pt/yoNS52>
    - b. **First Kindergarten Classroom Village Gathering Wed, Nov 4th, 6-7 in the Groveland cafeteria.**
      - All Kindergarten families are invited. This is a chance to make connections with other kindergarten families, learn more about Groveland, and have fun.
  5. PTO President, Tiffany Dreher spoke of the upcoming **Candidate Forum in the Groveland Cafeteria**. Tuesday, Oct. 27th from 6-8:00. All 9 candidates will attend. Topics for questions were discussed.
  6. Conferences, Book Fair Fundraiser, and Family Movie Night will be on Friday, November 20. PTO will fund pizza for teachers on Thursday night of conferences. Look for flyers for more details.
  7. 2nd Grade Teacher Tracy VanNatta and Parent Amy Krauth presented Schookidz teacher tailored school supply program. This program would give families options for buying school supplies with one click. Pricing appears comparable to buying supplies at other retailers. Amy will gather more information and present it at the next PTO meeting. Tracy and Amy are encouraging Groveland families try this program next year.
  8. **Library/Lunchroom Coverage** Chair, Elizabeth Lake gave an update.
    - a. Friends of the Groveland Library will start staffing the desk for checking books and shelving them next week, Oct. 26th. If you are interested in helping please contact Elizabeth Lake at [ealake@hotmail.com](mailto:ealake@hotmail.com) , please include Groveland Library in the subject.
    - b. Come have lunch with your kiddo! We are seeking volunteers to join staff during lunch time. Our littles need extra help opening milk or snipping the top off a yogurt. Our big kids may need a fork, extra ketchup or a napkin. To maintain lunchroom calm, kids are asked to stay in their seats, extra adults help with that. Finally we wipe down tables between classes. Watch for a Volunteer Spot sign up coming for lunch room volunteers. Sign up for a weekly slot with your child's class, come for the WHOLE lunchtime (11:30-2:00), or sign up to come as you are able. Find out what your kids are really eating :)
  9. **Groveland Specialist Blogs** Update (To subscribe to these blogs click on link and scroll to the bottom for the Follow pop-up)
    - a. Art: <http://awesomepandaartist.wordpress.com/>

- b. Science: <http://grovelandparkscience.wordpress.com/>
- 12. Sabrina Sutliff-Gross sent in a **Family Directory Update**:
  - a. All families that have added or updated their student's grade, teacher, and/or contact info should have received an email granting them access to the online directory from MySchoolAnywhere.com If you haven't received a reminder please email [GrovelandParkSpps@gmail.com](mailto:GrovelandParkSpps@gmail.com)
  - b. Login to the directory at <https://www.myschoolanywhere.com/login.a5w>
  - c. Your username is your email address and if your forgot your password go to the login page and click Forgot my Password to reset.
  - d. The print directory will be going to print on Friday, Oct. 23rd. \*Note families can ALWAYS be added or updated to the online version.

**Book Fair Update:**

- a. The fall book fair will be held in conjunction with the PTO Movie Night on Friday, Nov. 20th from 4-7 p.m.
- b. The Pre-Sale for parents will be on Thursday, Nov. 19th from 9:30-10:30 a.m. following drop-off. There will be no afternoon pre-sale this year.
- c. Thanks, once again, to all those who were able to attend the meeting.

**10. PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT PTO MEETING TUESDAY JAN 12TH AT 6 PM**