

PTA Meeting Minutes: Oct. 12, 2015

- I. Welcome and President's Report: Kara Vos
 - a. Donuts with Dad was a success. Plenty of volunteers. Plenty of requests for Donuts (not muffins) with Mom.
 - b. Follow-up on the Common Core meeting
 - i. Speaker was cheerleader for it, saying why it was great. Didn't explain testing or how to make complaints.
 - ii. Adaptive testing (Shawn Lewis-Lakin addressed this tonight)
 1. When will it happen?
 2. Not in 2016, but likely when there's a change in the testing contractor.
 3. State standards are a "low bar" compared to Royal Oak's standards
 4. Complaints? Comments? Contact the Dept. of Education and legislature, including State Superintendent
 - c. Legislation (presented by Shawn Lewis-Lakin)
 - i. Proposed House Bill 4822 includes third grade mandatory retention
 1. School board concerned with this
 2. Hard decision made between parents, teacher and principal
 3. This bill takes the decision out of parents' hands
 - ii. For updates:
 1. Oakland Schools Literacy (<http://www.oaklandschoolsliteracy.org/category/legislative-updates/>)
 - d. Receipts
 - i. Budget doesn't rollover across school years.
 - ii. Deadline: June 1.
 - iii. Submit as soon as you can. Give receipts to Kara or Leslie for prompt reimbursement.
 - e. Parent Guide to 20 Teen Apps (<https://safesmartsocial.com/app-guide-parents-teachers/>), including Snapchat and Whisper
- II. Treasurer's Report: Leslie Eyster
 - a. \$395 for store rewards.
 - b. 251 memberships received as of 10/12. That's up from 168 last year. Great news!
 - i. Pushed at Ice Cream Social and Curriculum Night
 - ii. Unsure how membership would do since we didn't have Registration Day this year
- III. Principal's Report: Jason Parrott
 - a. Electronic sign update
 - i. Bids were higher than anticipated due to unforeseen electrical issues (\$29,000)
 - ii. On hold
 - b. Haven presentation
 - i. Permissional letter sent home
 - ii. Statewide mandate: Erin's Law (<http://erinslaw.org/about/what-is-erins-law/>)
 - iii. Age-appropriate message for child sexual assault. Haven will visit each classroom individually.
 - iv. Teacher training (11/3), school presentation (11/24). Parent Night will happen between those, but date TBA.
- IV. Teacher Representatives: Lois Mann and Gail Granett
 - a. Thanks for "Welcome Back" lunch

- b. Walk to School a big success
- V. School Board Liaison: Gary Briggs
- a. Congratulations for him receiving Citizen of the Year Award
 - b. Contracts settled before school began
 - c. Good news! Stable district enrollment
 - i. In-district increases, especially in the younger grades. Many local districts still seeing decline.
 - ii. Schools of Choice: only K – 3 as space allows
- VI. Superintendent: Shawn Lewis-Lakin
- a. Proposed bill (SB 442 and 561) for concealed carry within “Gun Free” zones
 - i. Voted on Tuesday (Note: This passed and moves on to full Senate vote: <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/13/concealed-carry-bills-spark-war-words-mich-senate/73889076/>)
 - ii. Contact your senators to vote “no”
 - iii. For legislative alerts, sign up at Tri-county Alliance for Public Education (<http://tricityalliance.org/>)
 - 1. Even if you don’t agree with topics, you’ll at least be aware of what’s going on.
 - b. Traffic Study update
 - i. City didn’t get grant. Wants to wait for next grant cycle. Doesn’t want designation without proper signage.
 - ii. Superintendent suggested city adjust the budget.
 - 1. Mike Fournier open to being advocate for school zone designations
 - 2. Contact city government w/ your concerns.
- VII. Committee Reports/Announcements
- a. Fundraising: Tiffany Vosburg
 - i. Fun Run on Oct. 15.
 - 1. Goal is \$14,000 again this year. \$11,000 raised as of 10/12. (\$16,561 raised as of 10/16)
 - 2. Only major fundraising event
 - 3. 40 percent of kids enrolled and fundraising as of 10/12.
 - 4. T-shirts coming home Tuesday
 - ii. Relay for Life
 - 1. Separate from PTA
 - 2. Will begin fundraising in November w/ a Vendor Show on 11/14 (12 – 4 p.m.)
 - 3. Raised \$4200 at Bark for Life
 - b. Cultural Arts: Angela Maeso
 - i. 10/20: Author Emma Lesko for K–3
 - ii. 3/10/16: All-school trip to DSO (Let’s Dance)
 - 1. Tickets \$6/person. PTA will pay for school busses down.
 - a. Discussion about how much kids will pay per ticket vs. what PTA will cover.
Suggestion: \$5/ticket
 - 2. 5 parent chaperones per class will arrive first to help. Chaperones to pay 100% of their tickets.
 - 3. Kids encouraged to dress up
 - 4. Will tie in with March is Reading Month theme
 - c. Volunteering: Jeanne Winterburn

- i. Let Jeannie know if you committee needs volunteers
 - ii. Concussion training: disagreement over frequency (annual training vs. every five years)
 - iii. New volunteering meeting
 - 1. Only 3 people came
 - 2. Overall though lots of new kindergarten volunteers
- d. Holiday Shop: Angela Almas
 - i. Friday, Dec. 11 3:45 – 7 p.m.
 - ii. Crafters only
 - iii. Gym and Great Room (\$15/table or \$20 if crafter uses our table)
 - iv. Book Fair in Media Center
- e. Green Team: Johanna Kononen
 - i. Costume sale moved to 10/23
 - 1. Desperate need for costumes (elementary size, please)
 - ii. Bat Conservation Society will meet within the next couple weeks to hang bat houses
- f. Math & Science: Rachel Forsyth
 - i. Week of 2/1/16
 - ii. Informational meeting on Thursday, 10/15 at Atomic Coffee (7 p.m.)

VIII. New Items

- a. Gun Rights: Joanne Graham
 - i. See above (Superintendent)
 - ii. Concealed carry isn't a compromise. Even responsible people make mistakes like a Macomb County assistant prosecutor
[\(http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/macomb/2015/03/16/assistant-prosecutor-gun-school/24841131/\)](http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/macomb/2015/03/16/assistant-prosecutor-gun-school/24841131/)
- b. Philanthropy Line Item: Angela Almas
 - i. Was previously in budget. Would like to add back in.
 - ii. Will allow for Sue Kaczkowski to purchase items and submit reimbursements, improving confidentiality
 - iii. Motion for \$300. Leslie made motion. Rachel seconded. Motion approved.
- c. Lunch Schedules
 - i. Back down to 2 lunches.
 - ii. Louder and more chaotic, but it allows for a common meeting time for teachers and staff
 - iii. Kids are allowed to finish either on the stage or in the office
- d. Misc
 - i. Carolyn Jennings hopes to offer yoga after school to students
 - ii. Playground
 - 1. Board will match every 5 years
 - 2. Hope to plan activities to fundraise another build

IX. Communication

- a. Check out our PTA website at www.ptaoakridge.com
 - i. Dr. Parrott includes link in weekly Connection email
- b. Oak Ridge Facebook page: Oak Ridge PTA

X. Meeting Adjourned: Next meeting is Monday, Nov. 9, 2015 in the Media Center. Free childcare!