

Attending: 26 Parents, 3 teachers/staff, 6 PTO members (Shelby Connell, Dana McCloskey, Carousel Bayrd, Sarah Van Riet, Susie Anderson, Jen Roth)

MEETING CALLED BY PTO PRESIDENT SHELBY CONNELL		
6:30	<b>STATE OF THE SCHOOL PRESENTATION</b>	PRINCIPAL PEG KEELER
	<p>1st 45 min: presentation for overview of the school improvement plan and focus. (see power point slides)</p> <p>Shahanna Baldon, parent and district Director of Family and Community Engagement, spoke briefly to encourage all parents to go to <a href="http://www.mmsd.org/framework">www.mmsd.org/framework</a> and read more about initiative to focus on families' connection to school.</p> <p>Question from parent: Why do we not aim for 100% growth? (school goal is set as 57%).                      Peg: the 57% means what percent we hope to see reaching proficiency in that subject. We do want all kids to grow in their learning. Currently percentage is &lt;57% and we need to set realistic goal.</p> <p>Question: Do goals change based on the students enrolled, e.g. if more ELL students, will focus shift?                      Peg: Each spring the goals are set for following year based on data from fall/winter/spring of that year.</p> <p>Question: Please comment on teaching to the test.                      Peg: That could be an entire talk alone, but really teachers are teaching skills - yes this will reflect knowledge on tests but you cannot really "teach to a test" it's actually difficult to do that and our teachers are not doing that.</p> <p>Question: What about school enrollement size- what happens when we reach 450 or 500 students when school already too crowded?                      Peg: Parents really need to speak up if they have concerns- share concern with Asistant Superintendent, the school board, etc.</p> <p>Peg asks for input on how to continue the conversation on these topics- daytime "coffee talk", evening PTO meeting, other? Group present indicated 8 votes for daytime talk, 6 vote for a general meeting, and 2 votes for other. Peg and Shelby will try to schedule a daytime talk within the next month to continue the discussion about school improvement plan, etc.</p>	
7:15	<b>POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT</b>	BETH CANTWELL
	<p>30 min presentation on this program (PBS) and how it is used at school. (see power point slides)</p> <p>Ms. Minor is co-coach leading this program with Beth this year. PBS is in 7th year in district and 4th year at VHE.</p> <p>Question: Will resources be available on internet?                      Beth: Yes, a main goal this year is improved communication with families and materials will be available on web and come home in backpack mail.</p>	

**8:00**

PTO business meeting

Attendance: 8 parents, 3 teachers/staff, and all 6 board members listed above

1. August meeting minutes: review/approval needed. Sarah Van Riet moves that we accept minutes with any edits from group today and post to website. Dana seconds, all agree, none opposed.
2. Budget: has been approved by board. If any concerns, let board member know. Dana shares that while it looks like we have a large surplus of funds, we do allocate money for teacher requests so that is what those funds are expected to be used for. example, in past year book room was large expense. Teacher grants were started last year as a more structured way to fund teacher projects. PTO encourages sharing of resources purchased with PTO funds.
3. PTO Room Parent: Long discussion about the general idea behind this and Shelby asks parents for input. Susie read draft of "job description" for this role with emphasis on communication, encouraging diversity and community building, acting as a "liaison" between teacher, classroom families, and PTO, including helping organize/recruit volunteers for various events. Shahanna suggests that we do not use word "liaison" in description because there is another parent liaison role in district already. General agreement is that room parents would bring more voices to PTO and increase diversity in the group. Shelby will refine the definition and ask teachers to put the word out by/before open house asking for parents from each class to take on this role.
4. Open House: 9/24 5pm. Based on parent feedback it will be more structured this year, including set times for overview of curriculum for each grade level, including specials. Also time for visiting classrooms as well as eating. Plan to have student (highschool) volunteers serve pizza rather than parents. Pizza will again be free for families. No concerns were raised.
5. Noodles Night: Planned for Oct 14 5-8pm at University Ave location. They give PTO 25% of sales, has been good fundraiser in past. Shelby will need a person to help with flyers/marketing only.
6. Facebook pages: the school has a FB page administered by Beth Cantwell. PTO also has FB page and Shelby asks about overlap, should we consider working together and possibly cancel the PTO FB page? Group discussed and no one objected to canceling the PTO page and just having the school page. Beth clarified that any photos on FB page are checked with the permissions given by parents regarding use of photos of children. Location and face recognition services are deactivated on school FB account to protect privacy.

NEXT MEETING: October 1, 6:30pm. Anti-Bullying presentation.