

Date: 9/21/22

Location: Dale Street School

Time: 9:45 am

DALE STREET PTO MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Jessy Nejm, Kelly Scobbo, Nesse McCabe, Kristen Storer, Steve Grenham, Karen Healey, Ali Abba, Nadia Colombo, Jodi Bills, Nicola Tessier

- **Principal Update (Grenham):**

- Thanks for snacks and lunch at beginning of school – teachers very appreciative.
- Thanks to the PTO for volunteering their time. Steve emphasized open lines of comms between himself and parents/PTO. Anne/Lynne are also great resources.
- Thank you for the reimbursement of funds for teacher's pins (given from Steve to teachers at beginning of school year).
- Piloting a Math program with 6 classrooms (3 in 4th, 3 in 5th): Reveal, Illustrative, Stepping Stone.
 - Participating teachers: Douglas, Isaacson, Scott, Sager, McKenzie, Johnson
 - Run for '22-'23 school year and review at the end of the year. If recommended, will go to Dr. Marsden and School Committee for approval.
- Scheduling changes/updates:
 - Teachers requested more "content time" so each grade level has two WIN blocks which allows teachers to plan.
 - Specials are broken out like middle school schedule – allows for students to mix within other classrooms. Feedback has been good.
 - Makers Space and Tech are important part of program/curriculum to keep us as a "21st century school".
 - PIN is scheduled for Thursday night (9/22). Specialists and Makers Space/Tech resources will also be available.
 - Jen Belsky is now overseeing all math specialists at Dale, Wheelock, and Memorial.
 - Lunches are now divided by grade – 2 4th grade lunches and 2 5th grade lunches (lunch runs from 11:10am-12:45pm).
- For consideration: Purchase small pumpkins (55 last year) for teachers to paint a scene from their fav book and put them out around school?
 - Action: PTO to discuss/vote.
- For consideration: [Seed Science Program](#) run by Liz Bless and Sandy Pearl. Cost is \$7K. Funded last year by Mass Cultural Grant (\$5500) and curriculum funds (~\$1300). Does PTO have any STEM/Architecture resources that would be able to support a grade level program? (Plainville had it funded by grant from local architecture firm).
 - Action: PTO to discuss and provide names/contact information to Steve for outreach.

- **Hospitality Update (Healey):**

- First breakfast was a hit. Teachers loved Muffin House muffins. For all future hospitality events – send an email to Anne to let teachers know breakfast was there and ask Steve to include it in emails to staff.
- October – TBD but something festive.

- **Treasurer Report (Storer):**

- Dale budget is healthy.
- Received refund from hip hop performance.
- Distributed startup funds – 2 outstanding checks going out shortly.

- Paid Jim James for Spring Book Fair.
- Reimbursed town for the cost of teachers' pins and will add as a line item for next year.
 - Action:
 - Kristen to send emails to teachers to let them know their Thank You fund balances.
 - Rainbow Run check – Kelly to send check (~\$21K)
 - Playground repairs - \$5K. Kristen to follow up with Maureen Barrett.
- **Coordinator Updates**
 - Fundraising (Bills)
 - Rainbow Run to run in the Fall 2023 vs. Spring. All 3 principals on board. Potential to have a run in spring '22 ("Warrior Run"?) for Blake since funds are low.
 - Auction happening this year (brought in \$17K last year) during early 2023.
 - Spiritwear running in the fall – have a booth at tree lighting to sell items.
 - Could use TVL or Class Printing (who MCPE uses)
 - Trinkets/gifts in Memorial shed have been labeled/allocated to Wheelock and Kids Night Out.
 - Programming (Healey/Abba)
 - Sending out survey to teachers asking for any programming requests.
 - Karyn/Alli to source white board with wheels for Mairi Nawrocki. Write grant and submit.
 - Bedhead Ted author (Scott SanGiacomo) was well received last year. Bring him back for 4th grade (\$200 per 3 classes). Karen/Alli to reach out to align visit with graphic novel unit.
 - No hip-hop performance this year (late and half group showed last year).
 - Steve loved MLK presentation from pre-COVID. Karyn/Alli to research.
 - Garden club - Katie DiPalma – beautify Dale 2-3x/year.
 - Kids Night Out/Movie/Snow Ball/Spring Fling Coordinators
 - Niki Rahley, Louise Aronowitz, Sylvia Cooper – 5th grade coordinators
 - Katrina Myers, Nicola Tessier – 4th grade coordinators
 - Group to meet and reach out to Steve to firm up timing/plan.
 - Monthly Fun Club – need to find coordinator to organize/recruit for a few afterschool activities
 - Action: PTO to find volunteers
- **Parents On The Playground** – support for playground activities (cornhole, chalk) from 11:10-12:45.
 - Action: PTO to create new name and sign-up genius.
- **Fall School Spirit**
 - Fall Door Decorating – was a hit last year. Kids/teachers liked it.
 - Pumpkin Weight Guess
 - Action: PTO to discuss dates/organize prizes (Hydroflask stickers?)

Next meeting: November 16, 2022 at 7pm (zoom).