

# **PTO Meeting Minutes**

**11/1/2016**

**Location** - Mrs. Earl's room

## **8:15am Welcome**

### **8:20am Speaker: Jen Billow PCEF - Grants**

- Former PPES parent
- Distributed how the grants are broken down, pay for half the cost of district preschool. Coding completely funded.
- Grants due March 30th
- Teacher grants due on Oct 31 (75k)
- Committed \$130k to Parleys (promise for the next 3 yrs, PK, afterschool and EVA)
- Almost \$300k to Parley's this year.
- This Friday is Live PC Give PC, Nov 4th, PPES is raising money for a **Gaga Ball kit**
- 20% give back at Vinto
- Bring resource to the district such as United Way for afterschool
- Express Grants are available any time of year

### **8:30am Speaker: Andrew Caplan PC Board of Education Candidate, District 2**

-Feels it's important to represent elementary age students, important to get school bond on the ballot and get a new building asap, teacher salary negotiations, most important to making our kids successful, when teachers are unable to live here, why would they commute when they can live closer to home? Pay them well to keep them here. Important to fund DLI and PC Caps. Please come out and vote in this important election. Suzanne asked about opinion on facility changes, - Andrew - 9th grade going to highschool, all operations budget coming back from the state, using that money to get freshmen to the high school by 2018. WE need another elementary school, irregardless of what happens with the middle school. If we can keep 6th grade as an elementary curriculum it would be an advantage to the teachers.

## **Board update**

- Resiliency Program Jan 11th 530-7:30 PCHS
- PTO doing a refreshment table
- Speaker: Laura Waugaman - Counseling Delivery System & School Guidance Curriculum speaking at next meeting.

## **Budget update - Angie Brown**

- final number for apex \$35,250?

-membership dues, spirit wear, book fair, misc rev from Smith's, amazon smiles and Zupa night

### **Needs assessment: Survey results from teachers - Kim Crichton**

- 28/37 responded. Any credentialled teachers could respond.

Pressing needs - 45% Aides or assistants 25% ipads or computers, keyboards, headphones

District Shortfalls - 40% issue but figure it out

Program - While science instructor is helpful would rather have other needs covered

Value of the PTO - 100% said PTO is valuable, monetarily and emotionally

### **Allocation of funds: technology, aides**

- Desktops replaced with keyboards on the ipads, headphones, 5k budget

-30k on Aides -

David presented to Todd and Ember - approved for one aide and hoping to get approved for another.

Specifically to help lower grade teachers with iReady. Using Kindergarten aides to help with P30 1st and 2nd grade

-Need help with supplies

### **Chair updates**

#### **Teacher Grant applications - Brandie Revoy**

-75k available this year and teachers submitted around 10 grants. Including -Grant for parent resources for Dual language, grant for walking classroom, minecraft edu, essential oils in combination with other tools to help kids focus in classrooms, playground equipment for pre-k, parent resource library, weighted animals to help kids focus, greenhouse,

### **Speaker: Peter Yogman PC Board of Education Candidate, District 2**

-Wants to grant school more autonomy. Wants to look at increases in operating costs for afterschool programs, programs for mental health, look at increasing needs and prepare town for a general tax increase. Equalization is a misconception. Argue that our teachers can't afford housing, 20% ESL. Grades 5th and 6th school. Arguments - no one wants to go through boundary issues if you create a new school. Special programs easier. Other side, increases in behavioral issue. High school start times are important to move and need to be addressed. We could shorten classes by 5min per class to get out of school 30 earlier, possibly add another bus. High school expansion. Moving the football field is bad for students because if they move the field it won't be used as much.

Use land wisely and plan for the future.

### **10 am Close**

-Next meeting: Dec 6th 8:15am

