

Cedar Island PTO Notes September 10, 2009

Meeting was called to order

Attendees: 17 Parents and 3 staff

Principal's Report: Dan Wald

- Students and staff had a good first week
- During the summer teachers/staff had many opportunities to learn more about working together to help kids including an national educational convention cosponsored by district 279
- Enrollment this year is at 481 students K-3
 - Kindergarten
 - Class size 26-28 students
 - 139 students
 - 1st Grade
 - Class size 25-26 students
 - 126 students
 - 2nd Grade
 - Class size 21-22 students
 - 106 students
 - 3rd Grade
 - Class size 27-28 students
 - 110 students
- There is a parent informational meeting on Monday, September 14 from 5:30-7 PM outlining the TAG program and how it has changed
- Conference time preferences will go out in this Wednesday's envelopes
- Mr. Manning built a new lost and found bench located by the cafeteria
- All felt the open house went well, but more prominent signage for the different tables would have been helpful along with headphone and lunch money lines going the long way in the gym

Treasurer's Report: Barb Lindsay in place of Angie Simpson

- Discussed how to read the budget
- 2009-2010 budget discussed in general

Volunteer Report: Barb Lindsay

- Many volunteers came and helped this first week of school including before and after school, at lunch, getting kids on buses, Wednesday envelopes
- There will be a volunteer form going out in next Wednesday's envelope so that we can have a pool of volunteers from which to draw

Teacher's Report: Katie Leuer

- New technology in each room including hanging mounted projectors, and document cameras

- As part of the updating done this summer there is also new carpeting and flooring in many of the rooms and media center
- Custodial staff does a wonderful job and Joe is excited by the newly organized/remodeled work room funded by the PTO
- Patsy Erickson does a wonderful job at the front desk and knows all of the families and students in the school

Old Business:

- Teachers would like to make sure that Mr. Manning receives a Thank You note for the lost and found cupboard; Sheri Boehme to make a card for PTO to sign and send

Campus Liaison: Tracy Dorn

- At the last joint campus meeting a Facilitator was there to help discuss change and how to transition in light of Cedar Island/Oak View/Fair Oaks changes last year.
- Spoke about creating a community, creating consistency, and parent education
- Each school will host a parent education night during this school year. Examples of topics might be: bullying, transportation, testing, responsive class, understanding new initiatives, or having an expert speaker
- We want to make sure that we push for positive PR when due
- On October 19th at Oak view they will have an educational meeting about understanding test scores. Applicable mostly to 2nd and 3rd graders and up. More information will come. Don Pasco will speak
- Enrollment at Oak View as before school started: 550 students total
 - 29-30 4th graders in each class
 - 33 5th graders in each class
 - 34 6th graders in each class

New Business

- Fall Festival planned for Saturday, October 24th lasting 2-3 hours. It will be aimed at PreK to 3rd grade. Costumes will be encouraged. This activity will not be intended as a fund raiser, but rather something to foster community and belonging. Volunteers needed for this event and will also invited ECFE and PreK parents to help if desired. There is concern about similar community activities (such as Arbor Lakes trick or treating the same day).

Need a Food Perspective Coordinator

- They will make sure parent are given the opportunity to sign up for this fund raiser
- Not a time intensive volunteer position

Need a fundraiser Organizer

- The PTO needs someone to organize all the smaller fundraisers that happen throughout the school year (Box Tops, ink cartridges, dominoes pizza night etc). We don't want parents to be inundated with papers for fundraisers. This person

will make sure that parents will hear about fundraisers in an orderly fashion. The time commitment would be around 2 hours per month. There were suggestions to start going more paperless. We need someone within the next week.

Spirit Wear: Cortne Dahms

- The first order was sent out this week. They will place orders throughout the year but new company can do one offs orders as well. Samples of sizes are in Barb Lindsay's office. The same design will be used throughout the year. A suggestion was made to offer spirit wear to the 4 star students. Help will be needed when the orders come in to facilitate distribution.

Innisbrook

- Kick off is this Wednesday. It runs from September 16-30th. Money needs to be collected when the order is placed this year. Oak View is doing an Innisbrook sale at the same time with the same product line. We expect that it won't be as strong a money making year because of it. Delivery of product will be on Thursday, November 5. There will be a party for the children on Friday November, 6. As in years past, there will be a buyout possibility for families who choose not to participate in the sale.

Misc.

- There were some questions about class sizes. Cedar Island does not expect to be allocated any new teachers. Because of class sizes volunteers are imperative and so helpful to teachers and thus to children's education.

Next PTO meeting will be October 1st.