

DeRenne Avenue PTF September Meeting Minutes October 3, 2014

In attendance: Mrs. Van Puffelen, Elizabeth Witherington, Elizabeth DeWitt, Malena Stone, Laura Campbell, Alissa Gardner, Molly Goodman, Emily Thompson, and Natalie Ferland.

1. Elizabeth DeWitt opened in prayer.
2. PTF Prayer Warriors met in the computer lab from 8:00 - 8:15.
3. **Old Business:**
 - a. A big thank you to Theresa Portzer, MS PTF Pres, for all of the improvements that are underway and upcoming! Decisions on large improvements will wait on the information gained from surveys, strategic plan, and family interviews. Benches behind the LS building will hopefully be built after Christmas. Gym roof and back gutter will be fixed once decision is made on company to use.
 - b. Carpool issues have been resolved as much as possible with a sign and verbal corrections.
 - c. The next Boxtop collection deadline is October 17, 2014. Jennifer Haddad is sending home a reminder.
 - d. October Pizza Day raised \$155.00! All teachers, administration and support staff will receive pizza at no cost on pizza days.
4. **New Business:**
 - a. Treasurer, Kris Tindol provided a written report. The current balance is \$5,433.62.
 - b. A vote was taken on participation for Derenne LS in Labels for Education. The result was not to participate at this time.
 - c. **Thanksgiving Feast:** Monday, November 24th – following the Grandparents Day Parent Preview, which will be at 10:30. Christmas decorations will go up following the Feast and those who can stay to help would be greatly appreciated. Denise Wilson will be sending out info to ask for volunteers.
 - d. **Grandparents Day: Parent Preview:** Monday, November 24th – It was decided to change the Parent Preview start time to 10:30. **Grandparent's Day:** Tuesday, November 25th – Mrs. Van Puffelen included information about the Book Fair on the invitation. It was decided to forgo the basket auction, and instead encourage Grandparents to take their grandchildren to the book fair in the Media Center. Setup will be on Monday afternoon after lunchroom is cleaned.
 - e. **Book Fair:** It will be in the Media Center this year. The dates are set for Nov. 24th & 25th, Dec. 1st - 3rd. Elizabeth DeWitt will ask for volunteers to assist with setup on Friday, November 21st and throughout the event. Mrs. Van Puffelen suggested coordination with Mrs. Ayers on the timing of the Pre-K and Kindergarten classes' visit to the Book Fair on 11/24.
 - f. **Christmas Service Project:** In lieu of class gifts this year, students will be given the opportunity to bring in a gift card or a pair of slipper socks for a Riverview Nursing Home resident. The children will also be encouraged to color a placemat, which will be used at the nursing home. On Sunday, December 14th at 2:00 families will have the opportunity to attend a caroling event at Riverview Nursing Home (6711 LaRoche Ave)
 - g. **Spring Fellowship & Fundraising:** It was decided to hold a joint fundraiser with the MS PTF; possibly using Marco's coupon cards. This will be discussed in December or January. An April PTF Fellowship night in honor of our teachers was discussed. It would possibly be held at Your Pie in Sandfly. Malena Stone volunteered to gather some information on availability with Your Pie

owners.

5. Talk from the Top:

- a. Boosterthon is being held from 10/6 through 10/17. The Fun Run will take place at Chatham Parkway on the soccer field 9:15 for PreK – 2nd and 10:15 for 3rd-5th.
 - b. The Homecoming Bon Fire/Pep Rally will be held on 10/15/14 from 6:30 – 7:30 on main campus.
 - c. Prospective Parent Open Houses at DA: Elizabeth Witherington will head up the 12/2/14 Open House. Elizabeth DeWitt will head up the 1/15/15 Open House. Both will be held at 9:30. The structure will be more informal/touring than in the past.
 - d. Big thanks to Rick Tindol who is working hard on the technology that was purchased with the Spring Boosterthon money. A new mobile friendly website is also underway.
 - e. Resource teachers are working on goals for their classrooms to benefit from this year's Boosterthon.
 - f. All 1st-5th grade Lower School teachers are attending a writing workshop on Friday the 10th for continuing education. Mrs. Van Puffelen expressed her excitement for this conference and its enhancements to the curriculum.
 - g. The Raider Report has returned! Kim Porter heading it up. This is a weekly “news report” shown to the children to enhance school spirit. The “news” is of course Raider info only.
 - h. A discussion was held on suggestions for communication methods to parents on the many items that our administrators work hard on throughout the year, such as PK EED's, 1st Speech, 2nd Slingerland. Parent surveys to gather data on communication preferences and monthly newsletters were discussed.
6. The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be Friday, October 31, 2014 at 8:15 am in the Resource Room. Prayer Warriors will meet immediately before at 8 in Computer Lab.