

*****Chippewa PTO Meeting*****

Thursday, October 19, 2017 - 6 PM

Dial in: (712) 451-0277 / Access code: 900353

1. Call to Order – Loula Merkel, PTO President
2. Principal's Report – Mr. Swanson
 - There will be a Title One Family Night on Wednesday, Nov. 1, flyer will be sent out with report cards
 - Parent- teacher conferences will be held Monday, Nov. 20 from 12:30-8:00pm and Tuesday, Nov. 21st from 7:00-noon. Electronic sign-up will be available Nov. 1. There will be a letter in the report cards about this. Parents will meet with the student's team of teachers.
 - Halloween – the district sent out e-mail about appropriate costumes. School will be a half day with an 11:15am dismissal
 - After school activities are almost all up and running. Mr. Swanson said he would like to make the school more of a "home." He is interested in exploring the idea of extending the time kids must leave by. He said after the buses leave at 4:00pm Chippewa is a very quiet place and he would like there to be opportunities for things the kids could do even later. The challenge is how the students would get home. There is a possibility of exploring a second tier 5:00pm bus and using Title One funds.
 - The bells will be turned on for the second quarter, the first quarter they had them turned off.
 - With assigned seats the lunchroom is a lot less chaotic, no one is sitting alone, staff know where everyone is, it seems to be going well.

3. President's Report

Mission is to encourage a positive educational and social environment for our children. We will do that by increasing parental participation and enhancing educational experiences through the PTO

Parental participation is a key priority. We welcome everyone's input and involvement. We collectively vow to honestly and humbly solicit feedback on our activities and to provide input respectfully to each other, remembering that our biggest teaching opportunity for our children is our interactions with each other.

Link to minutes for the meeting – priorities include ELA curriculum in English and Spanish, middle school redesign, social/emotional learning programs (PBIS), strategic planning process, new financial software program.

4. VP Report- Fundraising- Sue Duffy & Peg Martin
 - a. Fall Sale Status: finished EPI sale – met goal of \$1100 and even went a bit over. All orders will be back mid-November, but there is not an exact date yet.

5. Spirit Wear – Kari Schacke
 - a. Fall Sale Status:
 - i. Good news: We sold 113 items to students and 42 items to staff totaling \$3226. This is an increase from last year, especially on the staff side. Estimated profit is \$1402
 - ii. Bad news: The vendor is slow (but good and cheap) so we don't have the items yet. Targeting delivery to advisories on Tuesday of next week
 - iii. Did not hear back from Ms. Leuken if teacher teams were interested in shirt, as she suggested at the last meeting.
6. Treasurer's Report- James Jones
 - a. 2017/18 Budget update
Spent \$420 on backpacks, there is \$280 left over, will figure out what to do with that later in the school year. With the spring-wear profit, there is a \$2495 balance in the account.
7. Secretary- Tracy Sommerfeldt
 - a. Communications update (email, website, facebook): Continue to update e-mail lists, send e-mails and post information to facebook. Also continue to update the Chippewa website as needed. Will send sign-up geniuses out as needed.
8. Cultural Arts – Kelly Fitzgerald
 - a. Looking at the option of one program presenting for each of the grades, like what was done last year. Some presentations can also incorporate workshops with smaller groups of kids. There are a lot of opportunities; Kelly will meet with Mr. Swanson to discuss further.
9. PBIS Rewards – Kelly Fitzgerald
 - a. Looking at the idea of weekly gift cards. Kids would receive tickets for positive behavior, and at the end of the week the staff would draw three names from each grade and they would receive a gift card. Will also look into doing the drawing every quarter rather than every week. Could also do some type of friendly competition. Ms. Leuken will be talking to the staff about their thoughts. Depending on what is done, would still have money in the budget to do other things.
10. Staff Appreciation – Christy Cangelosi
 - a. On October 24th there will be a Halloween Themed Staff Appreciation Day from 10:00am-2:00pm. A sign-up genius was sent out looking for volunteers. There will be another event before the holidays in December, one near St. Patrick's Day, and in May there will be an entire staff appreciation week with a luncheon.
11. Book Fair- Hannah Listopad
 - a. Hannah talked to a new rep out of Ohio who said there will be a new local person who will help. Set up will be 3:30pm on Tuesday, Nov. 14, and there will be two shifts people can sign up to help at on Wednesday, Nov. 15, Thursday, Nov. 16, and Friday, Nov. 17 - 3.5 hours each, from 8:00-11:30am and 11:30-3:00pm during the school day. There will also be three shifts on Monday, Nov. 20 (12:30-8:00pm) and Tuesday, Nov.

21st (7:30am-12:0pm) during conferences. Help will be needed with clean-up at noon on Tuesday. A sign-up genius will go out and Hannah will ask Mr. Swanson to send out an e-mail blast.

12. Chippewa Cares – Kim Ostrander and Kim Gleeson

- a. The team packed 15 backpacks, which were delivered to Mr. Martin (social worker) and he has already begun passing them out. The teaching teams also each received containers filled with school supplies. Only half of the budget was used. If items need replenishing they told the teachers to let them know. It is going well and the team has gotten positive feedback. They want to start planning ahead for next school year and will ask parents to buy a few extra things, building stock through donations. Staff said that headphones are always needed, along with pens and pencils.
- b. Coat Drive will be held Oct. 30-Nov. 10, with the coats available for parents to pick up during parent/teacher conferences. Ms. Radak, the advisor for the National Junior Honor Society, is having the students make a flyer. Asking for coats in good condition for middle school kids. The flyer will be posted on facebook, sent out via e-mail, and also may be hung up around the community.

13. LMC and Yearbook Support – Khaled Benkara

- a. LMC reading challenge: raffle or top reader based on grade level - Gift cards from local places, Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts, Walgreens, McDonalds
- b. Khaled and Loula will meet to talk. Yearbook \$20, \$10, \$5 for yearbook rewards for the cover.

14. New Ideas

- a. Poetry Slam – Jen Beckman and Hannah Listopad: The date has been set for Thursday, Feb. 8 at Chippewa. Mostly will involve 7th graders, but all grades are encouraged to be a part of it or cheer their classmates on. It will be one hour, from 7:00-8:00pm. Want parents to come and be involved, and Mr. Duff said the Jazz band will be involved also. There will be snacks, decorations, music. Cumberland Bakery said they would do a 50/50 with Chippewa, meaning if we buy 50 of something they will donate another 50. LA/LIT teacher Ms. Carmen is leading the planning. This could be a fundraiser, or it could be a Title One event and the school could receive funding to help put it on. Mr. Swanson will talk to the team planning this. Save the date flyers will be made in the coming weeks. There was a motion for the Chippewa PTO to sponsor the event; Loula motioned, Jen Beckman seconded.
- b. STEM/Science Night: there is a lot of interest, but right now participation seems to conflict with the sports. Kids are reluctant to commit until they see about their sports involvement. There is thought about maybe changing the curriculum so it's in shorter chunks. Wendy is looking into astronomy night. Conversations are starting and maybe look into having something in the spring or next school year.

15. Open positions

- a. 8th grade dance: Patti Garcia and Amy Hoffman will be in charge of planning the dance. It will be Friday, May 25, 2018.
- b. Next school year's PTO vacancies: Treasurer, Cultural Arts, PBIS. Christy Cangelosi and Tracy Sommerfeldt will lead Cultural Arts, Patti Garcia will lead PBIS next year.
- c. Tree decorating at Metropolitan Square Friday, Dec. 1. Tracy Sommerfeldt will contact the city to reserve a tree for Chippewa. Tracy and Vanessa Ramirez will plan ornaments for the students to decorate.

16. Adjournment – Next Meeting December 14 at 6:00pm, Chippewa Cafeteria