

**Lane PTO General Meeting
Tuesday, November 14, 2017**

Called to order: 9:01am

Present: Denise Pacioni (P), Kelly Staver (VP-Fundraising), Elizabeth Phelps (Communications Coordinator), Lata Balagangadharan (Treasurer), Shari Cornies (VP-Programs), Courtney Schaeffer (VP-Community Building), Didi Lewis (Recording Sec'y), Brandon Todd (Principal)

(Attendance: 12)

1. Welcome and Call Meeting to Order (Denise)
2. Principal's Message (Mr. Todd)
 - a. 2016-2017 Progress Report
 - i. Submitted plan for The Lane at Principals' meeting
 - ii. Shared 2016-2017 score statistics results
 1. Highlight: Writing - 89% met benchmark
 2. ELA: Highest meet/exceed percentage in D181
 - iii. PARCC 2017 results are in
 1. Math: 81% meet/exceed
 - iv. Highest performing school in district, based on math & ELA scores
 1. Increased ranking on School Digger site: up from #86 to #16
 - b. Addressing voiced concerns from parents
 - i. Keyboarding: Exploring opportunities to improve typing skills, will help to maintain and improve ELA performance
 - ii. Education Philosophy: Focusing on proficiency and growth for all, so that no student is left behind.
 - iii. Homework: Should be reasonable (approximately 10 min per night, per grade). If >1 hour, should be looked into. Studying for a test may add to overall time. Prioritize balance. If that's difficult, please see Mr. Todd to explore where issues may exist and whether changes are necessary.
 - iv. Substitute Teachers - frequency
 1. Teaching staff pulled out of/absent from class for committee meetings, admin meetings, personal/sick days
 2. Efforts being made to rectify meeting schedules to minimize teacher absences
 3. Will address personal absences
 4. Notification: Mr. Todd will ask teachers to notify parents re: committee meeting days (planned in advance)
 - v. Suggestion for future meeting for curriculum feedback from middle school parents
3. Keynote Speaker: Bill Eggert (beggert@d181.org), HSM Technology Coach
 - a. D181 Tech TOSAs: Supporting D181's Digital Learning Environment

- i. TOSA = Technology Coach; 4 TOSAs in D181 (split up schools within the district)
 - ii. Bill is assigned to The Lane School
 - b. Efforts to make themselves available to teachers and staff
 - i. Provide lunch training to teachers
 - ii. Support subject area committees
 - iii. Work on long-term goals for district for academic success committees
 - 1. Digital skills map to support keyboarding/typing skills
 - c. Parent Questions
 - i. Device feedback from parents – iPads for students
 - 1. Feedback has been positive so far
 - 2. Usage varies by teacher, based on their comfort level
 - ii. Guidelines for usage (time)
 - 1. Working on developing official district guideline
 - iii. Student tech/help desk for device, software, etc.
 - 1. Not yet set up now; currently, can ask Stephanie Stieglitz at school
 - iv. Training for parents re: software used by students (ie, Pages, Google Docs)
 - 1. PTO can gather topics/organize
 - 2. D181/TOSAs would be happy to support and provide training
 - v. District-approved app list
 - 1. Not currently available, but can look into and work on with parents
4. PTO Updates
 - a. Community Building (Courtney)
 - i. Holiday Gift Shop – December 15th: Give something you would like to receive; need more gifts for fathers and older brothers; need gift bags (easier than wrapping); Signup Genius will be available soon for shop volunteers
 - ii. Kids Care Club – already full! Let Courtney know if looking for another opportunity
 - b. Programs (Shari)
 - i. Great volunteerism for Programs – thank you!
 - 1. Veterans Day, Yearbook, room parents
 - ii. 5th grade – please help fill needs
 - iii. Creative Cafe
 - c. Fundraising/Benefit Update
 - i. Spirit wear: sale has been extended until 11/16
 - ii. Book Fair: still need volunteer hours filled
 - iii. School Store: watch for volunteer opportunities soon
 - iv. NEW Remind text messaging system: opt-in, used by other schools in district, good way to send last-minute communication to parents

- v. Spring Benefit: Planning underway, silent auction app/online this year (rollout before event). Need volunteers for:
 - 1. Host class parties
 - 2. Donate skills (coaching, lessons, etc.) as auction items
 - 3. Donation solicitors (from local businesses)
 - 4. Corporate donations (The Lane is a 501c3, donations are tax-deductible)
 - 5. Event night volunteers
- 5. Treasury Report (Lata)
 - a. Copy of budget distributed
- 6. General Questions/Comments
 - a. Gifts for specials teachers: included in gift budget
 - b. Charitable holiday efforts: money raised from school-based fundraising goes to students in need at The Lane School

Meeting adjourned at 10:08AM