

2/24/2014 PCO Meeting

Marla read the mission statement.

Tawana Cook – guest speaker

The staff really appreciated Staff appreciation goodies.

There are concerns from parents about students not being outside enough.

Ms. Cook remarked that it was very cold out this winter. The grounds are icy.

Additional concerns/comments from parents:

- Parents agree about the cold weather but in general the school isn't using the outdoors enough or as much as they did during the first years the school opened.
- At the Upper School there has been a huge drop off from visits to the park.
- When the school first opened the outdoor learning experience was supposed to be at least once a week. There is now no recess at the Upper School.

Ms. Cook said that they are doing their best to get the kids out. She will discuss these concerns with Jon and Steve.

Mini Grants:

- 1) Beds for K & 1st - the PCO motioned to approved for \$250.00 for the beds. Another \$150 will need to be raised.
- 2) Allergy Awareness – the PCO motioned to approve \$250 for various supplies such as epi pens, food, games, etc...
- 3) 8th Grade Teaching Teams – each 8th grade will be working on a project, “legacy project”. This year 8th graders are going to work on a mosaic piece for the entrance of the Upper School. The PCO motioned to approve \$250 for this project.

8th Grade happenings -

Legacy Project – the 8th grade team would like to start the project in March to have it completed and installed by the end of the school year.

Marla – asked if 8th grade parents would be leading this? Answer: yes.

A motion was made to provide \$950 to fund this project.

1 person abstained

A motion was moved to add this as a line item to the budget moving forward. This was unanimously approved.

8th Grade field trip

Funding raising needs to be completed by May for this trip to occur.

An Indiegogo campaign will be created to help raise funds.

A parent suggested reaching out to the Pittsburgh Foundation to help with funding.

A parent suggested auctioning off a special 8th grade basket at the Blooming Bash and babysitting at the Lower School during the Bash. All proceeds would go towards the 8th grade field trip.

Catalyst Project:

Maria explained the Catalyst Project, the new website and upcoming volunteer needs.

They will need parents to attend the Pgh Public School Brd Mtgs.

Letter writing is ongoing and they are shooting to have at least 100 letters sent to the Brd.

She emphasized that the amendment to the charter is not going to be easy and encouraged everyone to get involved so it doesn't fall to the hands of a few parents.

There are sample letters on the website. You can mail letters to the Brd Member from your district. Also send the letter to the Catalyst email address.

Molly – fundraising for the Catalyst project.

We will reach outside of the school for funding. An Indiegogo act will be set up. They are trying to get some money for a seed fund. They would like to capture data on past donors to the school. They will put together a cultivation and steward plan. There are lots of ideas brewing and if you have any or would like to help, please contact Molly.