

PTO GENERAL MEETING

February 17th, 2022

In-Person + Zoom Meeting

Attendees: All PTO Board Members, several parents in-person, several via Zoom

- I. Call to Order – 6:05pm
- II. Approval of November Meeting Minutes (minutes posted on DCE PTO website)
 - Motion to approve, seconded, approved
- III. Welcome Message to New Families, Thank you to Volunteers
- IV. Principal's Report
 - There will be a Q&A after she speaks
 - Current enrollment is at 950
 - We are facing a challenge of hiring new teachers as some existing ones are retiring or switching to Virtual Learning, new teachers are brought in as part of the team, and accountability is encouraged on all levels, both upwards to the principal and down through the rest of the staff
 - Student Achievement:
 - o Math achievement is at 81%, with the bottom ¼ improving by 11%
 - Durbin has 8 specially-trained teachers (through an FSU program) that helps them teach math to students, which the Principal attributes our high math scores to
 - o Science achievement is up from 69% to 80%
 - o ELA achievement is steady at 81%
 - "Character Counts" is now being delivered through Resource, trophies will be given to recognize good actions, also a bulletin board with student photos highlighting them
 - Ms McCormick thanked the PTO for all their efforts
 - She plans to develop a Student Leadership Council, starting with 4th & 5th graders
 - Q & A
 - o Q: How will we handle all the growth in the area?
 - New portables have not been ordered b/c we don't know when new students will come in
 - o Q: Has there been any discussion of DCE being re-zoned?
 - Not as a whole, but looking at possibly re-zoning pockets of Durbin Crossing
 - o Q: How are we handling teacher retention?
 - We are trying to figure out how to keep them, but it's not just a DCE issue, it's a system-wide issue
 - o Q: Kindergartners are eating snacks on the floor, are there plans to change that?
 - It is something that just kind of happened, Ms McCormick said she would address it
- V. Upcoming Events
 - Movie Night: March 4th, 7pm (Fri)
 - o Encanto will be played, cost is \$5/family, PDQ meals will be available for pre-purchase, RSVP for the movie will need to be by March 1st, PDQ must be ordered by Feb 27th
 - Spring Dance: April 30th (Sat)
 - o Will be two different times on the same day, split between lower & upper grades

Upcoming Events (continued)

- 10 Weeks of Staff Appreciation
 - o The last 10 weeks of school begin a weekly celebration of all DCE staff, with every Wednesday the staff getting some sort of special surprise like snacks, movie tickets, etc

VI. Treasurer's Report

- Fundraisers:
 - o Boosterthon money was used to purchase:
 - 90 iPads for VPK, K & 1st grade
 - 60 Laptops for 2nd – 5th Grade
 - 3 Laptop Carts
 - 4 bike racks: 2 for east bike area, 2 for west bike area
 - Our original goal of purchasing covers for the bike areas was cost-prohibitive because of the unexpected rise in material cost
 - o School Store
 - Raised around \$21,000 in gift cards for teachers
 - Prizes still being handed out to students
 - o Amazon Smile has raised \$220 so far this year
 - o Spirit Nights (PDQ, Tropical Smoothie, Jeremiahs, etc) has raised \$902 so far
 - o Holiday Shop raised \$1,360
 - o Explorer Rock raised \$926 so far this year
 - o Spirit Sticks has raised \$586 so far this year

VII. Partners in Learning

- Acknowledged all Partners in Learning (a list was read), DCE families were encouraged to support our Partners in Learning as they support DCE

VIII. PTO Nominating Committee

- We need to form a committee to help find the candidates for, run the election and formation of a new PTO board for next school year
- Every position on the Board is up for election because all members have to voted in every year

IX. Volunteer Needs

- Spring School Photos: 3/1/22
- Spirit/Prize Patrol – once a month on a Friday
- "Staff Snacks" – once a month on a Wednesday

X. Motion to Adjourn – unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 6:48pm