PTO GENERAL MEETING

November 18th, 2021

Zoom Meeting – 5:30pm

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of September Meeting Minutes (minutes posted on DCE PTO website)

* Motion to approve, seconded, approved

1. Principal’s Message

* There will be a Q&A after she speaks
* New ELA standards were introduced this year, new Math standards will be introduced next year
  + K -> 2nd grade has a new phonics-based learning program
  + K -> 5th got a whole new curriculum that the district brought in
  + 4th & 5th have more of a focus on writing
* Historically, Durbin students preform better at math than ELA on standard testing, which is the opposite of many schools, she credits teacher training
* 909 students enrolled at DCE as of mid-November
* Field trips are set to resume in early 2022
* Exciting things are being planned for 5th Grades but not specifics can be shared
* She really wants to focus on student engagement this year
* Q & A
  + What grade level is the special math program being taught?
    - K, 1st, 2nd & 3rd, but not in all classes
  + What is being done to challenge advanced students so that not only focus on under-performing students?
    - She did not have specifics but said she will be talking to her team about that
  + Will “Character Counts” be coming back?
    - She said she has to go and speak with leadership team about why we stopped it and if we could/should bring it back (it was stopped before she arrived at DCE)
  + What are the current Social Distancing policies at DCE and can parents/volunteers return to campus?
    - Outdoor events are fine, slowly trying to return to normal indoor events
    - We can have volunteers on campus
    - Lunch room is at 75% capacity, children still not eating face-to-face
  + Will classrooms begin having Room Parents again?
    - She will talk to team leaders, but since we can have volunteers on campus again she feels we should bring them back

1. Treasurer’s Report

* Huge thanks to parents and teachers for their help with Boosterthon
* $42,496 was raised by Boosterthon
* Waiting on estimates for bike racks & overhangs for bike racks, which were to be funded with money raised by Boosterthon
* Spirit night has already raised $851 so far this school year
* Money raised goes to resources and teachers
* 41 people have signed up to “Rent” Explorer Rock
* A parent asked what PTO spends the money on it gets from fundraising:
  + Supplies for resource teachers
  + Teacher learning and professional development
  + Individual teacher requests
  + Staff snacks
  + Random requests & projects

1. Upcoming Events
   * Holiday Shop
   * Staff Snacks
   * PDQ Spirit Night
2. Committee Chair and Volunteer Opportunities
   * Now that we can have volunteers, we need to form committees to help get things done
   * Sample committees would include Events, Fence, Spirit Nights, Spirit Patrol
3. Motion to Adjourn – unanimous