

PTSA Meeting 10/13/16

Attendees:

Chris Gray
Alicia Barnaby
Sonia Bacon
Sarah Spach
Matt Stivers

- Began with the agreement of Tool is the best band ever, and reminisced about our favorite bands of the '90s.
- Began summarizing the Facebook post in regards to clubs and parent involvement on our Informal Frost Facebook page. Some teachers are being strongly encouraged to host clubs and/or after school programs. Was discussed as a group, but something that is handled outside of the PTSA. The club concept was a smaller issue, but the overall concern was parent involvement which seems to be a common theme.
- Due to the recent flurry of Facebook activity, do we need our own page for the larger high school parent group? We agreed it was a position we need and added it to the team leader page (which still has a number of volunteer opportunities to sign-up and lead).
- A parent volunteer sign-up page was also passed around for providing Conference Meals.
- Our initiative sign-up sheet was also passed around with a new suggestion to add Chemical Kim, a Kent County Health Department contact that could come in and speak to students on topics of science. If interested contact Kristen Smith @ the Kent County Health Department.
- We also reviewed our proposed budget together as a group. Budget approved as a group. (motioned, seconded, and approved). Another teach stipend may be possible to come again in the spring (if we are positive for the calendar year).
- In Mr. Hubbert's absence, Chris reviewed the principal report provided by during the executive meeting:
 - "Parent-View" password came via mail for Synergy (should have been distributed as of today). Students can also log in (with their Novell School login). This access is needed access for viewing and tracking grades online. Please contact the school for anyone missing this access or help signing up.
 - The Fall PSAT is upcoming - 9th and 10th grades will test on 10/19
 - The 10th grade PSAT/NMSQT (National Merit Scholars Qualifying Test) – This program can provide scholarships based upon those results (beginning in 11th grade). Taking this test fall and again in the Spring to help track on students are performing on this test.
 - No food during testing (water bottles allowed). Can parents help out with food during the testing break? Coffee Cart scheduled at the time of PSAT to have food available for the students.

- Fruit / Granola Bars / Fruit snacks / Kind bars / Apples / Cider (brain food)
 - Count of 9th and 10th graders testing are 90 (but we should bring / prepare for 100).
 - Food dropoff or donations to be dropped off the morning of the 10/19.
 - Will let students know this is sponsored by the Coffee Cart so everyone knows the money spent during the week goes back into helping the school.
- We will be signing each kid up for a College Board account. This is required for SAT sign-up. If kids provide parent emails during the sign up they can also be emailed the details. This service offers six free practice SAT tests, and access to the Kahn academy. Even more interactive, the scores from the practice tests will help shape the lessons provided at the Khan academy. This sign up to occur on Monday.
- Another scholarship opportunity was discussed: Raise.me. The program rewards student involvement starting at 9th grade. Each student gets an account and are rewarded for good behavior, grades, sports involvement, stewardship, student council, etc.... Some nominal award for each accomplish (like \$5). A nice, easy way to bank some extra money towards college.
- The current marking Period ends Nov 4th
- Parent / Teacher Conferences are scheduled for 18th and 20th 3:45 – 7:45
- Teachers will be in each room with waiting seats in front of their door to form a waiting queue.
- There is a possibility that some middle school teachers will be setup in the cafeteria.
- Kids are encouraged to come, but is optional.
- The Gym floor is being installed as we speak (one of final big pieces to be finished for the school)
- Outdoor furniture still waiting, along with greenhouse, and possible storage shed.
- All grass is seeded around the school grounds.
- Additional basketball goals and a curtain are requested by Mr. Covey
- Basketball practice soon scheduled to begin, and these items will be very critical to the team.
- Another great thought is to offer intramural sports at the gym over the weekends or Sunday afternoons.
- The Grand Rapids Drive perhaps a sponsor to follow up with in regards to a possible donation.
- The Student Council are performing some long range planning to pencil in some fuzzy dates: Powder Puff, Dances (Homecoming, Swirl, Formal), Spring Festival,
- Have two student council dates upcoming with an outdoor movie and dance both happening in the next two weeks.

- Parent chaperones are encouraged, even though student council is hosting the event, parents can lend a hand in the decorating.
- The student council are having great ideas and working very hard.
- Tentative date for gym completion is the end of October (but may slip, as we are only 2 weeks out).
- Our Babysitting fundraiser coming up with Little Frost. Multiple dates suggested as we are getting closer to the holidays. Interest and dollar amounts to be gauged from the parents at the elementary building using our informal Frost page on Facebook.
- Also spoke to ideas for bringing in speakers (managing “Screen Time”, and proper Sleep as possible topics)
- We will also be surveying 9th and 10th graders for their traditions they would like to see formed for the coming years.
- Deanna looking for partnership with the Union counselor and including them into a lot of activities. See if we can participate in some of their events leading up to their Homecoming football game (Floats).
- Other homecoming events were discussed: Tug-of-war, Spirit week, and a “Ripening of the Tomato” (each class provided a color to dress / decorate around the school).
- Whatever we do, student buy-in is the most important thing. We’ve heard of luke-warm excitement for upcoming costume dance. Deanna to follow up with what more we can do for student body and what topics interest them.
- We want things that make it feel more like high-school.
- Do we need a separation between middle and high school? Outside of a formal dance, is there anything we should stress that should be special / exclusive for them?
- Possible door prizes to bring up numbers for future Frost events. Matt has volunteered some Farmers Insurance donations gift prizes (616-726-2475). Prizes are starting to accumulate for our spring carnival. But Matt has mentioned he has some funds available from his workplace for a donation perspective.
- Everyone in attendance agreed that this school will soon be competing with City for overall academics and soon we will be the coveted school.
- Need help creating and running a sign-up genius. Post to the informal Frost page.
- Sara looking into creating a Facebook group, for the larger High School. This page would look very similar to our informal Frost page, but to segregate some of our middle/high school topics that may need to be separated from the overall group. The group would be closed so others cannot see into it, and need to be granted access to the page.
- Our next meeting date will remain the second Thursday of the month at 6 PM. (November 10th).