

CMS PTO Meeting

Friday, March 18, 2016

Meeting Notes

Call to Order - 12:05 pm

Approval of Agenda of current meeting – motion to approve and approved

Approval of Minutes from prior meeting – motion to approve and approved

Board Members in Attendance:

President - Leslie Blackowiak, Vice President – Kelly Hopper, Treasurer - Crystal Kokal, Volunteer Coordinator - Lisa Kremer, Secretary - Julie Hartle,
CMS Staff - Nate Swenson

Board Members not in attendance:

Fundraising Chair - Sarah Johnson
Communications – Lisa Sheppard Pearson

Nate Swenson welcomed everyone and said we are continuing the student presentations

- Leadership opportunity for the students
- Parents can hear what is going on at the school
- Honor for the students to present to the group

Student Presentations

- Ben Anderson and Gerdie Summerfield brought 8 band students to talk about an overnight band trip to Chicago
 - Kids shared a presentation about their trip and shared what they got out of it
 - Met more students on the bus rides and on the trip in general
 - Learned different techniques
 - Fun to go to museums and aquariums
 - Hancock Observatory
 - Field Museum and playing there
 - Blue man group – showed differences in visual arts and music
 - Revamped ensembles this year and combined, added travel band, rehearsed 2 times a week for 2 months, performed 6 songs and participated in a clinic at Northwestern University
 - Celly app – tweet out to students and adults
 - Being good stewards and represent ourselves and Eden Prairie well
 - Unity, Artistry, Excellence and Legacy
 - Best group of kids the bus drivers had ever driven
 - Tour of Northwestern

Nate noted that he is proud that the trip reflected part of our Strategic plan

Contribute to the community – nice to see they are fulfilling part of our strategic plan.

- Four Students from Health Class – Things that teenagers face on a daily basis, Mr. Danell chose them to present on their topic of anxiety
 - Covered topic of anxiety, which is a big deal in our schools
 - Shared a presentation to educate on anxiety and how to use social media

Nate noted that a colleague of his says that there is a dark side to achievement and high achievement because of the pressure our kids are under. A lot of our kids are under pressure, whether pressure from themselves, from family, from siblings – contributes to what Nate sees in the middle school.

- Four Social Studies Class Presentations – Recommended to present by their social studies teacher
 - African Inquiry Project – Boko Haram – good nice to learn more about things happening in Africa – things she would not have thought about
 - African Union – interesting to see how different organizations work together and what they do
 - Malaria – What it is, where is it, how to slow down the spread and more
 - Girls’ access to education in Africa

1:05 - Nate recognized that some people came to the meeting and planned on an hour, so we will allow those to leave who need to and reconvene in a few minutes for the State of CMS

Nate’s Presentation:

Strategic Objectives of district presented

CMS Instructional Excellence

- 2015/2016
 - AVID (2 sections of 7th, 2 sections of 8th)
 - Power binder
 - Cornell notes
 - Critical reading strategies
 - Planner (developing strong connections with high school – new planner being developed at high school and will be implemented next year at CMS)
 - Multiple Measures of Student Progress
 - MCAs/EXPLORE (Currently held up to the State)
 - ACT not offering EXPLORE or PLAN any longer
 - Aspire – offered through ACT
 - 4Cs (BrightBytes)
 - Naviance – individual learning plans
 - Designing Pathways & TEN Survey

1:35 meeting adjourned