

DES State of the School and PTO General Meeting
October 8, 2019 at 6:15pm
Dogwood Elementary Cafeteria
Minutes recorded by Leanne Howell

Attendance:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Gates | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stacy High | <input type="checkbox"/> Kayla Pence |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Holly Kulp | <input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Brown | <input type="checkbox"/> Katie Laird |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nabiha Huda | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tina Thorn | <input type="checkbox"/> Tiffany Smith |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Viotti | <input type="checkbox"/> Hayley White | <input type="checkbox"/> Annabella Brandon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christina Hester | <input type="checkbox"/> Michelle Midha | <input type="checkbox"/> Lisa Navarro |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leanne Howell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Strain | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ellen Moak |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gayle Higley | <input type="checkbox"/> Jamie McGill | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Teresa Price |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paula Bailey | <input type="checkbox"/> Jamie Bialowitz | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Fisher |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Carter | <input type="checkbox"/> Casey Carrilo | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joye Phipps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kristen Boccher | <input type="checkbox"/> Carie Alley | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carrie Mayrhofer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lauren Wildrick | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amy Wenzel | <input type="checkbox"/> Kristen Waddell | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Debbie Brown | <input type="checkbox"/> Ann Gee | |

Meeting called to order at 6:16 by Elizabeth Gates and welcome.

State of the School-please see slide show attachment for details of this presentation.

Teresa Price-Principal: Our vision statement wasn't changed.

Joye Phipps-Assistant Principal

Celebrations:

- Level 4 school for growth, close to level 5
- Reward school
- New curriculums-Discovery Education for Science with use on Techbook; new social studies curriculum this year
- New Teachers: Eddie (art), Morris (K), Nelson (3), Brookshire (music), Barber (preschool), Smith (orchestra)
- Campus Improvements-specifically the paint throughout school and the bathroom renovations
- Thank you for instructional fees which supplement the student's curriculum

Teresa Price-Principal: Where we are...never stop reaching for forward and improving.

Heather Fisher-Assistant Principal: Current enrollment is 713 students. Arrival and dismissal have been smoother with the decrease in numbers. We are down from 9 buses last year to 4 this year. Our part time instructors have their own classrooms, we have a multisensory room,

and a multipurpose room. Our guidance instructors have rooms in the portables. Faculty grade bands have decreased, which is an improvement. We have proposed plans for the Donation Drive funds. More to come on that at the next meeting. Thank you for your support of the Donation Drive.

Teresa Price-Principal: Data always tells a story. We don't look at just one test score, we look at the whole picture. Mrs. Schurtz will talk more about our test data.

Heather Fisher-Assistant Principal

- 78% of our K-5 students are reading at or above their grade level. That number was at 72.3% last year. We doubled what the state would expect us to do in a year. Great improvement.
- We administer Case Testing 3 times a year. That info helps making decisions about any curriculum changes needed, and teacher/instructional support.
- TN Ready is every April in TN grades 2-5. Social Studies last year was a field test only, so no data for that. (See slide for results)

Carla Schurtz-Title 1 Coordinator

- We make a school improvement plan each year based on a diverse group of parents and staff assessing our grade level scoring. See slides for goals.
- Resources/support- purchased recently Chromebooks, IPAD/Podcaster, 2 Promethean Boards, Reading Buddy program stuffed animals, funded Reading Buddies Night event, 3 70 inch monitors and carts, Flocab, See Saw.
- See slides for more information on School Improvement Plan

Teresa Price-Principal

- We are still learning and growing. The number of conversations we are able to have about individual students, and our classroom visits, have increased because of the decrease in enrollment.
- Thank you for being here!

PTO Meeting begins

Elizabeth Gates-PTO President:

- Welcome, September meeting minutes available in the back of the room. No changes to the minutes proposed. They will stand as written.
- Grateful for all the support thus far this year!
- Currently PTO memberships are: 367 families, 13 grandparent/community, 56 faculty.
- Can still join the PTO, and as always, look for volunteer opportunities!
- Thank You to:
 - Paula Bailey for a great walk to school day and the first walking school bus.
 - Katie Laird for an awesome potato bar for faculty.
 - Smoothie King for donating smoothies for our staff.

- Tina Thorn for a great family movie night.
- Malco for donating the popcorn for family movie night.
- Annabella Brandon for coordinating volunteers for school pictures.
- Ann Gee our room parent chair.
- Room parents and grade captains for volunteering for these roles.
- Health Room Volunteers/Library Volunteers/Cafeteria Volunteers.
- Becky Borgman for the sensory path created in the orange hallway.
- Please visit the website and volunteer!
- Reminder: The Dolphin Digest goes out weekly. Please email Elizabeth with shout outs!
- Announcements:
 - Class t shirts have been delivered and will be distributed very soon.
 - Spirit shirts coming soon.
 - Dolphin Digest: submissions due by Thursdays at noon. Will not go out on the Sunday preceding fall break.

Leanne Howell-Secretary: Please remember to sign in.

Karen Viotti-VP Hospitality: Veterans Day Program is Monday, November 11. We are able to have only one program this year because of the decrease in number of students. There will be a reception for veterans, a parade in the hallways, and a program. Veterans can register online.

Holly Kulp-VP Operations: Appropriations Committee will meet in November.

Gayle Higley-Assistant Treasurer: In September: 32,000 came in from Donation Drive, 650 from Kroger, more than 5,000 from PTO membership drive. 3,600 was spent-some of that ways and means, 500 for the READO party, 1100 for Family Movie Night. Email with any questions.

Tina Thorn-Family Movie Night: huge turnout for FMN. HHS had an off weekend, which proved to increase our attendance. More than 50 volunteers. Thank you! The art installation from FMN will hopefully be up by Book Fair.

Ryan Strain-Legislative:

- Executive Committee and 3 of the GMSD BOE members got together for an informal meeting here in the cafeteria. Great time of visiting and getting to know one another.
- From the last BOE meeting: look at the draft master facilities plan on the GMSD website. More than 2 million dollars in improvements are in the plan for Dogwood, including replacing ceiling tiles, lighting. They are hoping to fast track some security improvements for Dogwood.

Paula Bailey-Beautification:

- Thank you for Walk/Bike to School event help: Mrs. Price for participating, Karen Viotti for wearing Daisy.
- Recycling program is getting going.

- Please drop off any pumpkins or mums at the main entrance to help beautify the school entrance for this fall season.

Amy Carter-Book Fair: October 29th is the Book Fair. Sign Up Genius has gone out requesting help around this event. We will have trick or treating in the school that night, parents/grandparents can come and shop with their kiddos during school lunch time that day, and kids can wear costumes that night. Lots of help needed. Please volunteer!

Old Business-none

New Business-Karen Viotti plug for people volunteering to wear Daisy for school events.

Next meeting will be November 12th at 9:00 am. Appropriations will report at this meeting.

Meeting adjourned by Elizabeth Gates at 6:51 pm.