

Dale Street PTO Meeting

March 9, 2022

**This PTO meeting was held in person.*

Welcome and Introductions: Steve Grenham (Dale St. Principal), Karen Seitz (5th grade Co-President), Jessy Nejm (4th grade Co-President), Paula Pacheco (Vice President), Lindsay Rogers (Treasurer), Jill Werner (Secretary), Ali Abba, Karyn Healey, Nesse McCabe, Jodi Bills, Kelly Scobbo, Jessica Harney, Jennifer Sroka

*** Introductions of Board/attendees. Comments on how good it was to see faces since we were maskless for the first in-person meeting in two years*

Principal Update: Steve Grenham

- National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) exam was administered to a randomly selected group of 50 4th graders. Commonly referred to as “The Nation’s Report Card” – is administered every two years to a sample of fourth and eighth graders in reading and mathematics.

-MCAS exams are scheduled to begin the first week of April, starting with ELA. Dale is prepared and has Chromebooks available for every student. Steve emphasized the point of the MCAS exams is to assess NOT test.

-MCAS exams will continue into May as well. After ELA, 4th graders will take math, and 5th graders will take Math and then Science. Chromebook practice will be underway

-Library staff came up with some amazing reading activities to go along with Read Across America week

-March Madness is going on. Teams of 3 made up of 4th graders, 5th graders, and some staff members are competing in a bracketed foul shooting contest. There will be an assembly on April 14th to celebrate the Final Four shootout and a Poetry Bracket that has been playing out as well.

-In another step toward normalcy, field trips will be occurring this spring. The 5th grade will be heading to Lowell Mills. (3 classes will go at a time, so it will be spread out over 3 days)

-The student council met with Steve and Community Service Coordinator Alice Jreige to come up with the Medfield Food Cupboard Food Drive Competition. Each class is trying to bring in the most food items and earn the most points to earn a class reward-type party. The competition has been exciting for the students and they have contributed so much helpful food donations so far this month.

Treasurer Update: Lindsay Rogers

- budget is in good shape
- Field trip funds will start to be paid out as we get closer to actual field trip dates
- \$1200 paid out since March 3rd is not shown on the report yet
- Townwide Fun Run/Walkathon in spring will hopefully bring the budget up to its level of past years.

Fundraising Update: Jodi Bills

- Medfield Madness-an online experience auction, benefiting K-8, will be released later this month. (Sat 3/19-Mon 3/21 are auction dates)
- Auction items include: Kickball and pizza events with 4th grade teachers, Minute to Win It type challenges with 5th grade teachers, Principal for a Day at elementary schools, Teacher for a Day, HS Sports-Captains for a Day, Team up with HS sports.
- A fundraiser K-5 fun run will be happening later this spring. It will likely be held during school day, possibly during PE class times.

Hospitality update: Kelly Scobbo

- A special Cutlets luncheon was prepared for Dale St staff for Valentine's Day
- Hospitality continues to have smaller touch points across the school year.
- Upcoming events will include St Patrick's Day treats, Power Up Stations on the 3/22 conference day, and a fun week of events for Teacher Appreciation Week, which is the first week of May

Programming Update: Karyn Healey and Ali Abba

- Karyn and Ali are hoping to bring a "Become your Dreams" History of Hip Hop Presentation to Dale this spring--the performance has connections to growth mindset, black history, and poetry and teachers can plan to use it as a launch off point for enrichment projects
- They've secured an awesome author visit. Scott SanGiacamo who wrote Bedhead Ted will be visiting Dale 4th and 5th graders in early June

MCPE Update: Jessy Nejm

-The MCPE Spelling Bee is being held March 25th this year. Teams are encouraged to sign up for a superfun, costumed event!!

-4 MCPE grants have been approved-1 for Memorial, 1 for Wheelock, and 2 for Blake.

-Fall Ball will be back later this year

Community Service Update: relayed by Karen Seitz on behalf of Alice Jreige

-Alice continues to work with student council to come up with meaningful student-driven community service projects

-The March Food drive for the Medfield Food Cupboard is underway and is off to a great start!

-There is a town wide clean up scheduled for April 23rd and 24th–It would be great to get Dale students participating in some capacity

-Student council helped create Valentine boxes for the teachers.

-Nesse McCabe shared about the HUG program status. This program was brought to town by Alice Jreige and it helps ease the transition for families who have recently moved to town. They get paired up with in-town mentor families who can help support them and answer questions as they navigate school and sports, and other aspects of town living. There is a need for more mentor families in the program. They would love to get more mentor families in the database to support any new moves coming to town in the upcoming year. Alice Jreige and Sylvia Cooper are leading this initiative at Dale and Wheelock

New Business- Karen Seitz

-Kids Night Out is back. 5th grade KNO will be held on Friday, May 13th and is being run by a veteran KNO coordinator, Michelle Barrette. 4th grade KNO will be held on Friday, May 20th–4th grade parents will shadow Michelle Barrette in her preparations of the 5th grade night so they know how to execute the 4th grade experience. The nights include a DJ, games, raffles and snacks. Additional parent volunteers will be needed to make the night a success. Ticket cost is usually somewhere around \$10-15 per ticket.

-Plans are in the works for a Talent Show this spring. It has often been held as a 5th grade talent show, but there was talk about it being a 4th and 5th variety show. This is still being discussed. Jill Werner and Mary MacInnes will take lead on this and they'll plan to connect with Meg Cabezud who has run a successful talent show at Dale in the past. Date is TBD at this point.

-5th Grade Year End celebration plans are underway. With movement of the last day of school due to snow days, it is currently scheduled for Thursday, 6/16 at 9:30am at Dale. T shirt order plans will need to be executed.

-5th Grade Yearbook- We want to up the communication to get people ordering yearbooks and uploading the requested photos. The Yearbook Cover Contest will be accepting entries through April 11th.

Next (Final) Meeting: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 @ 9:45 AM