



PTO Meeting
Thursday, December 3, 2015

1. Welcome PTO Executive Board
 - a. Meeting called to order at 6:10 by Sonja Brown
 - b. Seconded by Janet
2. Updates from the PTO President Sonja Brown
 - a. Currently doing coat drive.
 - i. Collecting again tomorrow.
 - ii. Bins will be out at Hug and Go lanes before and after school.
 - iii. Carol or Nalleli will also take items in the office.
 - iv. Will take items throughout the year for our community.
 1. Canned foods, clothing, school supplies.
 2. Socks are also a big item, will take new or used.
 3. Warm clothes are always good.
 4. Good to have them for field trips when a kid forgets their jacket.
 - b. We are doing a Student Exchange program with students from China.
 - i. There are about 20 kids coming in January.
 - ii. They will be split between us and Lab.
 - iii. The deadline to apply for being a host family is tomorrow.
 - iv. Students will be here for a week, but that time is broken up.
 - v. They will participate in any activities you do as a family.
 - vi. You would take them to school with your kids.
 - vii. The only meal you need to provide would be dinner, they will be having breakfast and lunch at school.
 - viii. Any questions, contact Andrea Overton,
andrea.overton@adams12.org.
3. Updates from the Principal Martin McCarthy
 - a. We opened for Choice yesterday.
 - b. We received some data from last year's PAARCS assessment.
 - i. We can't share it until after the 11th.
 - ii. There are some encouraging things in the data.
 - iii. After the 11th, you should receive kids' scores in the mail.
 - c. Westin Holiday party is the 14th.
 - i. Parent volunteers are not permitted.
 - ii. Kids are getting excited for that.

- iii. We will not be sending out permissions slips, but instead an opt out letter.
 - iv. If you would like to opt out, you can also contact Keely Rochford.
 - d. January 15th is Elementary Assessment.
 - e. Next week we have two musical performances.
 - i. Tuesday is the middle school band concert.
 - ii. Thursday the 10th is Luz Brillante for elementary students..
 - iii. We ask that you get your kids here by 5:30.
 - iv. Both nights should finish up by 7:00.
 - f. We got 2 new Ipad carts for 7th and 8th graders.
 - i. Using for virtual tours of different careers.
 - ii. Will let them explore different opportunities.
 - iii. Gets them excited about careers.
 - iv. Fits in nicely with 8th grade internships.
 - g. Achieve 3000 is up and running for kids.
 - i. Seeing used in the classrooms more and more.
 - ii. Parents are also able to use at home.
 - iii. Ask your students teacher for passwords.
 - h. At January PTO meeting we will do a presentation on PAARC info
 - i. Only 6 states continuing to do PAARC testing.
 - ii. Colorado is one of them, with RI, MA, IL, NM, and AR.
 - iii. The scores are lower than TCAP.
- 4. Updates from PTO Treasurer Alicia Nanez
 - a. Alicia is not here tonight.
 - b. We don't have any changes in terms of money.
 - c. We have had a couple of grants.
 - d. We have one tonight for 5th grade.
 - e. It is for Ms. Andrews and Mrs. Priola's class.
 - f. \$3,500 to help implement Achieve 3000.
 - g. This is for 10 Chrome Books that would be available to all 4 5th grade classes.
 - h. Ms. Andrews and Mrs. Priola teach Language Arts to all 5th grade students.
 - i. I propose that we fund the \$3,500 for the classrooms.
 - i. Vote taken.
 - ii. Passed unanimously.
 - iii. Parent Question: Are there no cheaper alternatives to the Chrome books? Would they not be able to use the Amazon Tablets that are much cheaper?
 - iv. Mr. McCarthy: I'm not sure if Achieve 3000 is supported by the Amazon tablets.
 - v. At this time, the vote is put on hold to allow Ms. Andrews and Mrs. Priola to explore cheaper alternatives. If no other option is found, the grant for \$3,500 will be awarded.

5. Q&A

- a. Regarding PAARC Assessments
 - i. Are other states going back to the old assessments?
 - ii. Mr. McCarthy: There is a mix of things that they're doing. They are coming up with different plans. There is also national legislation in the works that may change everything up again. Colorado has not indicated that they will drop it.
 - b. Will we be doing One to One like STEM Lab?
 - i. Mr. McCarthy: That is something that is funded by parents, and we just don't think all of our parents would be able to do that.
6. Adjourn
- a. If there are no other questions, then we will adjourn early for tonight.
 - b. Students are out for Winter break Dec 17th and return Jan. 5th.
 - c. Meeting adjourned at 6:38
 - i. Seconded