Allen Parent council meeting

Attendees: Kerry Beal, Takeshia Banks, Fred Rivera, Adrian Dantzer, Cara Crisostomo, Elizabeth Peters, Shaima Basuni, Noureen Vaid, Stephanie Zang, Kristen Mehlhauser, Anna Vasquez, Alicia Carroll, Michele Barkoot, Christy Kemyor, Miriam Vincent, Heidi Kussurelis and Heidi Harris.

* 5:30 Call to order
* 5:35 Principal’s Report
  + National Blue Ribbon Achievement: M step testing, Narratives were written by Beal, emails were sent over the summer. Over 400 schools nominated. Mrs. Beal has known for a while but could not tell anyone. It’s an award for high achievement at what’s considered a risk school.
    - The award will be given on November 5th. To accept the award Mrs. Beal will be present along with Jeanice Swift, Dawn Linden and an additional teacher. Which teacher has not been named. They will be there from November 5th the 7th.
    - There will be a ceremony during the school day to celebrate.
    - Allen Elementary will carry this honor forever.
  + Rededication of Allen held with the School board to take place October 25, 2017.
    - A plaque with all current school board members will be presented, to be displayed.
    - An Open House will be held for families in the school area and any others that desire to come.
    - Red Carpet will be present related to the Lights, Camera, Action theme for this school year. Fifth graders will be tour guides (showing the Great Room, Library, Gym and some classrooms).
    - Speakers will include Superintendent, Principal and PTO member.
  + Curriculum Night was successful
  + Spirit wear should be worn on Friday October 13, 2017 for school photo
  + Last shipment of furniture was shipped although shipment was originally wrong. Included was tables, puzzle tables, adult chairs and furniture that was the appropriate size.
  + New Playground items this year: ideas have started; surface material of big concern for safety, one incident in afterschool childcare reported. Parents have done a walk through unfortunately Mrs. Beal was out sick.
  + Election Day: Takes place on November 7th. Millage renewal discussed.
    - Millage provides six million annually. This goes towards tech, special education, and general funds
    - Notice that wording may seem different on ballot but it is not an increase. This is just information not telling how to vote.
    - A video available to view for more information can be found at a2schools.org.
  + Third grade reading law: Includes personalized learning plans, this change has changed report cards for all grades. PLP & IRIC for reading will be discussed and parent- teacher conferences.
  + No questions for Mrs. Beal.
* 5:57 Alessandro Toniutti, Allen’s New Art Teacher
  + From Canada, Studied in Toronto, with an additional certification in Special Education.
  + 9th year in education, prior experience with Middle School.
  + Approach for the 10 months is a different Element or Principle for each goal. Some include Visual Vocabulary; Balance and Unity. Assignments will be geared towards elements. These principles will help with Fundamental skills for Middle and High School.
  + There has been no painting or clay yet but will be in the year. Additionally different visual mediums and vocabulary.
  + Art Sonia software discussed: it is a program where the children’s art can be uploaded. The art work can be shared with family or kept private. Additionally it can be purchased with the proceeds going back to the art classroom.
  + Email for Mr. Toniutti: [toniuta@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:toniuta@aaps.k12.mi.us).
  + Parent Questions:
    - What are good resources for home? Suggested was Youtube, Younger coloring book (assisting them to stay in the lines). Older go to an Art Store and look around, pick out different markers, paint brushes or things that catch the eye.
    - What technology is used in the classroom? Reported that curriculum calls for using technology to create Art. Younger just how using the computers work. Older illustrating possibly on Photo shop or another one Mr. T has used in his past curriculum.
    - Request to have Art two times a week, stated not possible for some classes. Although the suggestion of going to the Scrap box, Rec and Ed mentioned.
  + Teacher grants provided by PTO, $250.00 per a round mentioned by Parent Council to assist of the building of his classroom. Currently classroom is stocked.
* 6:12 Fun Run
  + Fun Run committee met prior to Parent Council meeting.
  + DJ booked and will be present during Fun Run.
  + A parent is donating popsicles & goodie bags.
  + Heidi K agreed to donate water bottles as she has done in past years.
  + Volunteers still needed for: setup, encouragers, and clean up. President stated there will be a Sign-up Genius.
  + $6400 has been raised towards the goal of 15,000- checks have not been entered. 25.4% of students are registered currently, goal is at least 50%.
  + Donations can be received up to a week after the Fun Run.
* 6:20 Trunk or Treat
  + For families to celebrate Halloween on school grounds without being during school hours to where some students cannot participate.
  + A survey was put out on Facebook to get an idea of if people would host or attend.
    - Results: 120 people saw, 20 attended, 8 will host, 6 will bring cider and donuts and 1 will do a craft table.
  + Time discussed, now 1pm-3pm. This is related to it being game day.
  + This will be a test run to see if it should be held in future years.
* 6:24 Looking ahead to November
  + Movie Night for Young 5’s and 2nd graders to be held 6-8pm.
  + Request for Volunteers: Alicia Carroll, Noureen Vaid, Adrian Dantzer and Anna Vasquez all volunteered.
* 6:27 Old Business
  + Crosswalk update: there are no updates.
  + Blaze Pizza was successful with over $300 raised for Allen Elementary.
  + Chipotle will be the next Fundraiser. A parent mentioned Potbelly also holds one which organizer will be contacted.
  + PTO Thrift Shop Raffle, did not schedule a time to schedule tickets due to Store and Director stated to call the opposite. Raffle not being done related to lack of instructions.
  + Parent Council Treasurer stated we are looking for a parent to coordinate or be a liaison for the PTO Thrift Shop. A blurb of responsibilities will be written.
  + PTO Launch Party at Pattengill on October 16, 2017 from 6:30- 8:30 pm discussed.
  + Grounds keeping concerns. Fred Rivera offered to take care of weeds. He stated he is always willing just email him at [fredriv@gmail.com](mailto:fredriv@gmail.com).
* 6:34 Quest Martial Arts
  + Director introduced and list of things they offer including PE for a day program.
  + Packets of information from Quest provided.
  + Volunteer options discussed, the mention of Quest assisting with Fun Run discussed. Director will follow up with president.
* 6:38 Meeting Adjourned.