

**Summit Middle School PTO Meeting**  
**March 4, 2019, 6:00 p.m.**

Meeting called to order 6:05 p.m.

Present: Amy Peckinpaugh, Jessica Nix, Brook Sipe, Lara Schreck, Rachelle Malone, Julie Niman, Dr. Josh St. John

1. Teacher/Staff Update (Mrs. Niman, Language Arts Department Coordinator)

- There are a total of 8 Language Arts teachers at Summit: two for 7<sup>th</sup> grade, two for 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and four L.A./Reading teachers for 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- The department is currently evaluating their areas of greatest weakness before purchasing new materials and choosing new novels for all grade levels. They plan to utilize frameworks, workshops and new ideas from a variety of sources to merge the Reading and Writing Standards in an efficient and meaningful way. This is a process completed every 5 to 6 years.
- They plan to make the decisions by the beginning of the next school year, then train staff and roll it out by the beginning of the following school year (2020-2021).
- The Language Arts department conducts practice tests with the students with up-front expectations.
- An instructional coach meets with the teachers regularly and gives some perspective on high school expectations.
- Maintaining a common language between grade levels is important.

2. Principal's Report (Dr. St. John, Principal)

- JA in Day
  - Overall, the day was successful. Many students were engaged with the content and volunteer presentations.
  - 34 volunteers brought a passion for the curriculum and shared their personal experiences. Much training and preparation was required and Summit is very appreciative of all of the wonderful volunteers.
  - Summit would like to host it again in a couple of years.
- In-Service Day on February 8, 2019
  - Summit/Woodside/Homestead staff gathered together to hear a presentation by a visiting professor in Educational Neuroscience from Butler University, Dr. Lori DeSautels. She spoke about brain development in children and how adverse childhood experiences and trauma can impact how they learn and behave.
  - In the afternoon, the Summit/Woodside teachers met within their educational subject areas to work on common assessments and quality control.
- Mastery Learning Pilot Program
  - Consultant is coming to Summit to observe and make suggestions for Mastery Learning in the classrooms with new grading guidelines.
  - Has already been working at the elementary level and redesigned report cards.

- Summit Extra-Curricular Activities
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summit Girls Basketball beat the previously undefeated Woodside team and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summit Girls Basketball defeated top-seeded Carroll to both win Conference Championships!
  - Summit Dance Team is going to the State competition this weekend.
  - Summit/Woodside "Class Act" Show Choir has won multiple Grand Champion awards this season with their final competition in the Chicago area this weekend.
- Orchestra classes will be offered at Summit starting next year. Eight incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders have already signed up and it will start as a mixed grade-level program.
- Redistricting
  - Approximately 20 students living in Zone 1 and currently in 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Covington will be redistricted to Summit next year.
  - 17 (out of potentially 40) current 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders at Woodside have chosen to come to Summit next year.
  - Over the next few years, more students will be redistricted to Summit and should max out at approximately 75 new students. This would put Summit at capacity with a total of about 800 students.
- Project Lead the Way
  - Summit has received the 2018-2019 Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Distinguished School designation for its PLTW Gateway Program through its Computer Science curriculum and Technology Team Time.
  - We are one of just 426 PLTW secondary schools across the nation to receive recognition this year for increasing student access, engagement and achievement in their PLTW programs.

### 3. Secretary's Report: Lara Schreck

- Minutes from last meeting were reviewed and approved.

### 4. Treasurer's Report: Amy Peckinpaugh

- Income (February/March):
  - \$836.67 was received from Kroger Rewards and Amazon Smile (a new program initiated by Brook Sipe).
  - Received \$110 in February and \$15 in March from Spirit Wear sales (mostly from shirts sold at the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>).
  - Dividends totaled \$2.69.
- Expenses (February/March):
  - Paid out \$507.49 to Music Department (Ms. Banton) and \$237.43 to Special Ed Department in February for 2018-2019 grants (total grants paid so far this year: \$2,348.28). Only grant left to be submitted/paid is \$99 for Mild Disabilities program.
  - Received enough parent donations to cover the entire Teacher Appreciation event in February including an extra donation of \$10.
- Current Credit Union Balance: \$11,127.82

## 5. Old Business

- Fundraising/Social Nights
  - Jessica had some information about potential social nights at Outback and/or Mitchell's. She will see what scheduling options can be worked out.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Send-Off
  - Brook Sipe and Julie Wolfe are co-chairs of this committee.
  - Date is set for May 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
  - Mr. Schenkel (radio/TV teacher at Homestead) will be the DJ.
  - Planning to have a cruise ship theme with lanyards.
  - Tickets will most likely cost \$10 per student and activities will include a dodgeball tournament.
- Superintendent Artwork Project
  - Jessica Nix has already met with Mrs. Nicholson to choose a piece of art from Summit.

## 6. New Business

- 2019/2020 Board Positions
  - Lara Schreck's position as Secretary next year is open since her youngest child is a current 8<sup>th</sup> grader. Jessica Nix, Brook Sipe, and Amy Peckinpaugh would like to remain in their current positions as President, Vice President and Treasurer respectively.

## 7. PCC Meeting

- HHS expansion: Plans are for the building to be 75% new and 25% renovated. Taxes will NOT be raised to complete this building plan.
- Mastery Learning Program: The district is seeing growth through the pilot program but doesn't want to mandate it at this point.

## 8. Future PTO Meetings (2018-2019)

April 22

All meetings will take place in the Summit Conference Room on Mondays at 6:00 p.m.

Next meeting: Monday, April 22 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 7:10 p.m.