

Minutes from PTO Meeting on September 22, 2015 - 7 p.m.

Mr. Bishop, Mr. Kish, the PTO Board, and several parents were in attendance.

Mr. Bishop advised that the district's new website is up and running. It is more organized and up to date than the old one was. Sean Whelan has done a fabulous job. The hope is that next year all forms for students will be one electronically.

Newsletters are being delivered electronically this year. Parents should make sure they always opt to get communication from our district electronically. Paper copies are still available by request throughout the office.

PTO is going to attach membership form to both the high school newsletter, which is sent out bi-monthly; and the middle school newsletter, which is sent out quarterly.

PARCC testing is gone. State created testing is being used, which uses state benchmarked results, rather than national results. The same subjects will be tested, but less time is needed and results should be more accurate.

PSAR is being offered this year at the high school. All sophomores and any interested junior may take this test on October 14th. The cost is free to students. It aligns better with the AP courses at the high school and helps to prepare kids for college level exams, and opportunities for scholarships for juniors that are taking the test.

Late start Wednesdays back at the high school - students (including freshmen) do not have to be in the bldg until 8 a.m. on Wednesdays. They may come early and sit in the cafeteria and use as a study hall.

Open house was nice - ran differently than last year - went back to old schedule where parents traveled around to the classes.

October 7th and 15th are the high school parent teacher conferences in the library.

They are the 8th and 15th of October at the middle school. A-L is on the 8th and M-Z is on the 15th, but parents can go to either.

Homecoming is week of September 28th - haunted homecoming is the theme. Powder Puff game is Wednesday, September 29th.

Thursday, October 1st is the homecoming assembly.

Friday, October 2nd is the parade and rally, along with the home football game. Saturday, October 3rd is the homecoming dance.

Students will be asked to sign the dance contract again for homecoming dance. It states they will act appropriately at the dance.

Tickets will be available week of September 28th for the dance - students need to sign the contract to get the tickets.

Spirit week will be posted on the web - something different each day to celebrate homecoming week. The new district app is up and running.

6th grade camp dates have been finalized. they will be April 13-15th (Wed. - Fri.).

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All 6th, 7th, and 8th graders will have math and language arts testing - math testing will follow whichever math they take.

There will also be social studies and science testing.

Middle school just had annual assembly kickoff - speaker on bullying and making choices.

Principals would like to bring in another speaker in the spring - maybe PTO sponsored?

Interscholastic athletics start in 7th grade.

New phone system in the middle school getting installed next few weeks.

8th grade - aspire test - transition to the sat - will be on or around the 1st week in November. 15th - can go to either

Asked if the conferences can be moved sooner in the quarter, so if a student is struggling, parents can be aware of it before the quarter is over. Principals to look into it.

Anytime a student comes to school and feels bullied - please bring to principals' attention - can fill out anonymous report online and it will go to the principals.

There is also a hotline for students to call.

7th grade parent meeting for Chicago - Tuesday September 29th at 7 p.m. - Dates of trip are May 19th and 20th.

8th grade parent meeting for Williamsburg - Tuesday September 29th at 7:30 p.m. - Dates of trip are May 3rd - 6th.

Treasurer's report - \$500 in the account right now.

Color Run did well - split proceeds with interact club - our half was \$1,436.73.

Collecting boxtops - put in baggy and turn into school.

Book fair week of November 10th - Tues, Thurs, Fri at the middle school.

Dances - attendance low for upper grades at middle school - want to do one after football season - low admission charge - if it does well - like to have a free one

Mr. Kish is going to talk to student council to see if they can survey students to see if they want a dance or if there is some other type of event that they would like to have.

Holiday Luncheon date confirmed for Thursday, December 10th.

Year end disbursements - purchased 12 used Latin books for high school 16 - \$15 spirit shop gift certificates.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m. Next meeting is December 8th at 7 p.m.