

MINUTES

Merrill Middle School PTSA Minutes

Date | time 1/21/2016 6:15 PM | *Meeting called to order by* Eric Fling

In Attendance

Eric Fling, Catherine Collier, Amy Homburger, Laura Mitchell, Aurelia Fling, Micayla Fling, Jamie Wasinger, Anne Friesen Birky, Becky Wiggins, Melissa Dantes,

PTSA President Report – Eric Fling

- Will reschedule Agnés Dwenger from Colorado PTA for next meeting
- Need officer positions filled for next year, President & VP

PTSA VP & Communications Report – Catherine Collier

- Will change PTO to PTSA for email accounts and establish generic emails for PTSA officers that will float from year to year.
- Working on possible candidate for communications for next year, possibly also VP candidate

Treasurer's Report – Catherine Collier for Joe Welch

- Have raised approximately \$2250 for the kiln and will notify Merrill community that we need approximately another \$1000 in order to purchase.
- Officers will attend fall 2016 training for PTA. PTSA will cover the cost of any elected officers for next year that want to go to PTA training in April 2016.
- The Merrill X-country jerseys were paid for my DPS – no longer a PTSA liability.
- Teacher appreciation costs were donated, so the \$400 previously budgeted is also no longer a liability.

Membership Report – Amy Homburger

- Catherine Collier will send out a request to parents to sign up for Merrill PTSA.
- Cost is \$10 for parents, \$11 online, \$7 to students, teachers and staff
- Goal this year is to reach 10 members (note: after this meeting, we're at 9. Yippee!)
- Amy will email minutes to all PTSA members.

Assistant Principal Report – Brett Stringer

- Possibly storage area near boiler room, will check with Amy B.
- Heba will take over the Jaguar Journal. The cutoff for getting info in the Journal is Wednesdays at 5pm. Parents should send info they want included to Catherine Collier and she will be the point person to Heba.
- Brett will check on the art room space to make sure it is up to code to handle a new kiln.
- The soccer team fundraiser through Great Harvest Bread for a student in need was a huge success and a significant check was written to the family as a result of the fundraiser.

- Last parent tour and student shadows were last week. Postcards were sent to students at Merrill's feeder schools. Approximately 300 students shadowed Merrill, and both student shadowing numbers and parent tours were up over previous years.
- PARCC Test results will go home with report cards. There is a delay in getting the PARCC results and thus a delay in report cards, as they will be mailed out together. However, report cards are posted on the Parent Portal.
- Spring 2016 PARCC testing will begin after Spring Break. Students have ample time to take tests. For example, a 60 minute test is allotted 90 minutes.
- Baseball tryouts will be in March.
- Amanda Rau's responsibilities have been divided between Brett, Amy B., Ms. Wickham and Mr. Franklin. Amy B. is the 7th Grade Administrator for now.
- The Merrill administration has written a proposal to be on next year's bond. Requests include gym renovation and expansion in all spaces in general for an increasing Merrill population.
- Ideas for fundraisers were explored, including Librarian (perhaps will be addressed at CSC), new lighting in the auditorium and free tutoring for students.

Student Council Report – Micayla Fling

- The Valentine's Day Social will be on February 12th from 6:30-8pm
- Dress is officially semi-formal, but more casual is welcome, too.
- Student Council will sell carnations at the dance and will hold a "Crush for your Crush" fundraiser from Feb. 5th – 11th where students purchase a Crush soda for friends and have them delivered.
- Student Council asked if PTSA would donate pizza.
- Field Day and the International Festival are also upcoming.
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Open Discussion

- Becky Wiggins discussed restaurant nights. It was suggested that locations closer to Merrill may improve attendance. Upcoming is Mooyah on April 27th. Also upcoming include Kitchen Next Door, Big Smoke Burger, Illegal Pete's near DU, DQ possibly on May 13th, Little India and Max Gill & Grille for end of year.
- Brett will check to see if PTSA should provide coffee on February 5th.
- If we hold a \$52.80 fundraiser with Westerra, it would probably be in the fall. A more passive approach online might be a better fit.