



February 4, 2016

Parent education night.

Open forum

Panel members:

Nicole Talley, Principal

Brian Gilmore, Counselor

Melissa Daughters, President

Jodi Haggen, PTO volunteer coordinator

Heather Calloway, PTO president

Andrea Balzotti – Auction

Katie Kavulla – Newsletter

Sharon Missiaen Phycologist

Allison Alexander, 2nd grade teacher

Susan Miner – PTO VP

Teri Milnes – PTO Asst. Treasurer

Laura Lawyer, PTO PAC rep

Ariel Massey Dance head

Misty Saldivar – fall festival

Melissa welcomes the group. Based on feedback from last year, parents wanted an open forum to ask questions.

Introductions made –

Updated dates given.

Class pictures – February 16th

Kids night out – February 26th getting very close to the limit on kids night out – make sure you sign up or you may get turned away. You can also email Susan if you know your child is going to be at kids night out.

February 11th science fair deadline to sign up – March 8th is actual date. Volunteers needed for clean-up and set up and interviewing of the kids. Kristen Mason is in charge of this. (she also does math club)

Krislow99@gmail.com

Book fair February 19th.

Questions:

Budget – we are working on getting it on the PTO website. Kira handed out updated budget.

Box tops – money for box tops goes into the general funds. Only collected 2x a year October and March.

Labels for education – we need another person to help out with this and we could get extra money for this.

Kira discusses budget. Discussed amount in the bank and the expenses that we have.



Jog a thon - \$33,000

Auction \$20,000 (\$4100 expenses)

Playground improvements – have spent \$9287 thus far and will be more for this year (dug out the tree routes and repaved – new picnic tables)

The money for the auction was just for the field to make the field usable all year.

Sod v. seed – if we can raise the money for sod. Can't start playground improvements due to watershed in Lake Whatcom. If we can't use grass or sod would be wood chips. If we have another action like we did last year we would have enough money for the sod.

Auction – needs volunteers to help with that. Last year was July – good time of year to do it. Sometime in July. Possibly a Saturday? Contact Andrea Balzotti if you would like to help. Her Email is andreabalzotti@gmail.com

Newsletter – looks really good – link to PTO website as well as on the Silver Beach website. If have information for the website send email to Katie Kavulla – email katiekavulla@gmail.com

Ask teachers for art or writing submissions for the newsletter? Newsletter for Friday club? Student corner? If you need volunteers make sure and tell Katie.

Bike to school – the group that sponsors it isn't doing it any longer. But still a National bike to work day. Holly Swanson still willing to have a bike to school. Needs volunteers. If you would like to help please email Holly at swanson_h@hotmail.com

Robyn Johnston– enrichment – she would like an assistant or co-chair to help with the enrichment programs. She will only be doing this one more year and will need to pass this off. Wants to make sure that the news about the classes is getting out to the parents. Main complaint from parents is that it isn't used a child care – and they aren't consistent. Create a child care solution (especially on Thursdays) an alternative to the YMCA. Some clubs have been less consistent than other clubs. Mr. Gilmore thanked Robyn for the scholarship funds for the after school enrichment. Easy system for scholarship. Everyone is happy with the enrichment. All classes on the PTO website. If you would like to help with enrichment please email Robyn at sbea.enrich@gmail.com

Ariel Massey Dance – April 22nd Rock and Roll Theme? Spring fling? April? Suggestions, comments? Please email? If you would like to help, please contact Ariel at massjr@comcast.net

Misty Saldivar Harvest festival – would a Saturday be possible for decorating purposes. Only 2 hours to get set up and decorate. Possibly a Thursday before purple Friday? If you would like to help please contact Misty at misty.m.saldivar@gmail.com

Sharon Missiaen – school psychologist. Work study with students – working with the whole child. Not just the single problem (i.e. not being able to read) and what can be done as a family to help the children. Parent support is very important and parents here are incredibly supportive.

Brian Gilmore –looking to make positive connections with all the kids – being an advocate for all the kids.

Building a community where the whole child can thrive.



Spends part of his day working with kids on the playground helping the kids that may not have the social skills and have positive interactions with all the kids.

Do you notify parents if you have a conversation with our child?

He deals with big problems and small problems. If there is a big problem, he will call the parent – but little things that happen will deal with the children. Encourages the children to talk with their parents about small problems. No ongoing counseling or ongoing dialog with your children without the parent being notified. If it is a big problem, he will definitely notify the parents.

Wants kids to know they have a positive place to talk if they want to.

How does a child get to see the counselor? If your child comes home saying that there is a problem how do they deal with it? Can parents contact counselor? Do only teachers contact him. You can contact Mr. Gilmore at anytime. Often what happens at school is communicated differently – might make it a big deal or not a big deal when they talk about it at home.

Envelope on his door that you can put your name in if you would like to have a check in with counselor. Mr. Gilmore will contact anyone that puts a slip on his door.

Having Mr. Gilmore on staff changes the teacher's role so they don't have to be the counselor. They can concentrate on the teaching. Mr. Gilmore can help deal with problem solving and doesn't distract from the other kids.

Mr. Gilmore and Nicole Talley meet weekly to make sure all the kids needs are being taken care of. Not just academics could be a variety of things in school or at home.

If you see something at home, reach out to the counselor. If there is something big going on at home, discuss the counselor. It gives them a window into something that may be going on that they don't realize. Never such a thing as too many phone calls to the counselor.

If you have nothing going on at home but there is clearly something going on with your child, is it okay to contact the counselor. Yes, that is what they are there for. As a parent use the resources that you have to talk with the teacher and counselors.

Topics for next PTO

April 14th – puberty 5th grade teachers talking about curriculum and a pediatrician talking.

June – kindergarten tours.

Any topics that you would like for next year please let us know.

Will send out another survey for what people want next year.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted Heather Calloway