

## PTA Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2013

The PTA budget was accepted for 2013-2014 year.

Signups to help for various events were passed out and all of the events were described. These event sign ups included princess prom, field day, middle school dances, high school scholarships, Lake County Council delegate, heart healthy Valentine's Day, conference dinners, and historian (someone interested in making scrapbooks of PTA events).

Linda Davidson announced Candidates Night which is on Wednesday, October 9, 2013. They need donated baked goods for the event. You can drop them off in the main office at the high school with Rosemary on October 9.

A parent asked if we had any specific dates for the auction yet. Usually the auction is scheduled in early March. Spring break is early this year so looking at end of February, early March, with Princess Prom in early February.

The book fair is TENTATIVELY set for November 8-18<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are always welcome and can be for few hours here or there, does not need to commit to the whole week. Emails will be sent out through the PTA groups closer to the date

### Principal's Report

Mr. Willis introduced Mrs. Davis, the elementary school art teacher. She thanked the PTA for all of the PTA's support for the art, music, PE classes. She does have a small request for Styrofoam egg cartons for the art classes.

Mr. Willis thanked everyone for their support for full-time only kindergarten. The change is making a huge difference for the children.

The students are undergoing MAP testing (Measures of Academic Progress). These tests will be performed at the beginning, middle and end of the school year to monitor academic progress. The reports will come home at and be discussed at the November conferences with the students' teachers.

As Halloween approaches, please choose appropriate Halloween costumes. Please no violent characters, no symbols of death (eg. skulls), and no weapons.

Mr. Willis is using email to send school-wide messages such as the one today about the dress code adjustment for tomorrow, September 11 because of the extreme heat. They do not have all of the kindergarten parents' emails for that list yet, but are working on it.

Questions for Mr. Willis--

A member brought up concerns about large class sizes. Mr. Willis responds that they are balancing class size with being able to effectively educate and being fiscally responsible with tax dollars. The class sizes are within contract limits, but they are larger than usual. In a small school we will see those swings in class sizes. They are aware of the situation and watching the numbers carefully and doing the best they can.

He was asked how classes are selected for the gifted curriculum in fourth grade. This selection is based on IOWA and COGAT tests.

Shannon Sullivan mentioned the website [www.greatschools.org](http://www.greatschools.org). It is a site that rates schools and if we get more reviews from parents, can qualify to be in a drawing to win \$5000.

Shannon also started a Facebook group page called Kirtland Parent Information. This group will be used to post updates on news and events and to be a resource for parents in the school system.

A big thank you to Hettie Carestio for all her hard work resulting in a great Ice Cream Social!!

Our next meeting is Tuesday, October 8, 2013. And don't forget Candidates' Night is Wednesday, October 9, 2013.