

## Groveland PTO Meeting Minutes

Location: GPE Library

Date: 03.08.16

Time: 6:00 pm

Attendees: 25

### Agenda Items

#### Review of Feb 2016 meeting minutes.

**Building Improvement Plans**, with a projected 10 year timeline, are underway for Groveland.

- Once the School Board approves the budget - focus groups of designers, staff, and families will work together to finalize plans. In 2014- 2015, focus groups of parents and staff established the following design priorities: safety, heating/air conditioning, cafeteria/kitchen redone, keep larger window in instructional spaces, cloak rooms eliminated, lockers needed, amphitheater gathering space inside building, inviting entry, loading space, parent pick up/drop off, and outdoor shelter.

#### Recap of Past Events

- **Newbery Medal winning African American writer Kwame Alexander** visited our school on Friday, Feb 19. The assembly was dynamic, fun, and energizing. Thank you to the Groveland African American Affinity group for securing the grant and organizing the event.

#### Friends of Groveland (GPE PTO Fundraising Arm) Report, Chair Christine Melchert:

- The total funds raised from the Apex Fun Run event are still being calculated. 75% of the pledges have been collected. 100% of the pledges will hopefully be collected in the next week. The initial tabulation is giving every indication that this fundraiser will greatly benefit the school by raising funds for a minor library overhaul and for teachers to buy supplies for their classes. Parents expressed praises for the event. Parents briefly discussed the pros and cons of the prize incentives and noted that next year, if we bring the Apex Run back, we will be able to take what we have learned from this year and make it even more successful.

#### Current and Upcoming Events:

- **During Parent/Teacher Conferences**, it has been a tradition to provide a potluck for the teachers. Please deliver items to the main office on Thursday, March 17th at 3:15pm. The teachers will eat dinner on Thursday night and have leftovers on Friday. Thank you for your generosity! Sign up to bring something at <http://vols.pt/FykAHK>
- **Book Fair - Parent Book Fair Pre-Sale: Thurs., Mar. 17 - 9:30 -10:30 a.m.**  
**Book Fair: Fri., Mar. 18 - 11:30-7:30 p.m.** (in the library before and during Movie Night)
- **Movie Night** - 03.18 Doors open at 6:00 and Movie starts at 6:30
- **Volunteers for Book Fair and Movie Night are needed.** Please sign up at <http://vols.pt/C43KKi>
- **Talent Show** - There is currently no talent show scheduled for this school year. Parents are encouraged to volunteer for a committee to organize the event. If enough parents step forward a Talent Show will be planned for the Spring. Rocket Ryan, an Apex Fun Run leader and a DJ may be available to support us. If interested please contact Christine Melchert at [cmelchert@gmail.com](mailto:cmelchert@gmail.com)

#### Lunch/Recess:

- In an effort to efficiently transition from lunch to recess students dress in their winter gear while eating lunch. Some parents were unaware that this was happening and asked about this situation. A short discussion about the positive and negative aspects of this took place.

#### **2016-2017 School Budget**

- **Enrollment Information** - Principal, Becky Pedersen, stated it was too early to have our enrollment numbers for next year. Parents requested that Pedersen make sure Student Placement knows Groveland parents wish to keep classes open to enrollment and not cap our numbers due to the need to hold space for the DCD program.

#### **2016-2017 Budget Priority Activity**

- Parents and teachers at the meeting took part in an activity to rank our budget priorities. This was a proactive effort to identify, unify, and clearly list priorities for our school. The information from this activity will be used to help support our principal in an effort to ensure our school's expectations are expressed and understood by the board and the superintendents.
- Parents/Teachers worked from a list of budget priorities including: teaching assistants, enrichment teachers, librarian, counselor, social worker, nurse, enrichment funding, smaller class sizes, additional EL teachers, additional science teachers, GT teacher, behavioral support staff, increased, office staff, technology, and increased supply budget.
- The results of the activity showed that, in addition to maintaining our current resources, Groveland parents' top priorities for next year are:
  - Enrichment Teacher (mixed ability instruction) and GT Teacher (in combination)
  - Behavioral Support Specialist
  - Teaching Assistants, and
  - Smaller class sizes
- If you would like to express your thoughts on budget priorities for Groveland, please contact Tiffany Dreher at [tiffany.dreher@gmail.com](mailto:tiffany.dreher@gmail.com)

Thanks again to all who attended!

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT PTO MEETING on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 PM**