

Monthly PTA Meeting December 12, 2016

of attendees: 10

- Administration Updates (Principal Gibbs)
 - Middle School Info Night on 1/11
 - For students and parents. Flyer will go home to 5th grade students. Whittier alumni can contact Jeff Carlson to participate.
 - Data Review Cycle Update
 - School Improvement Plan (SIP) and Family Involvement Plan (FIP) inform areas to improve.
 - Every Wed staff meets:
 - Climate (wrapping up cycle now)
 - Math (cycle starting right after Winter Break)
 - Literacy (after Spring Break)
 - Because we are an IB school, the process includes enhancements that support IB principles:
 - SIP and IB Self Study Goals
 - Review unit of inquiry, IB scope and sequence for subject areas
 - Set team intent (essential agreements)
 - Align pre-assessment to lines of inquiry
 - Request for high level recap to be presented at future PTA meeting
 - Budget Process
 - Those interested should plug in through Site Council. Formal recommendations come through Site Council. Upcoming meetings are 1/12 and 1/26 from 6:00-7:15pm.
 - Will be hot topic at Jan 2017 PTA meeting.
- Hot Topic: School Improvement Plan (SIP) and Family Involvement Plan (FIP)
 - School Improvement Plan
 - Goals set by Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) to improve three areas: Climate, Literacy and Math.
 - Demographics (@ District level)
 - MCA/MAP testing (next year MAP will be replaced by FAST)
 - Strategies: school chooses from a list. Oral Language Development (Math Talk, Socratic Seminar, IB Communication, Academic Conversations)
 - Stages: Exploration, Installation, Initial Implementation, Full Implementation (typically takes 3-5 years)
 - Teachers collaborate to develop the 4x year milestones to gauge progress.
 - Family Involvement Plan
 - All families
 - “Opportunity Gap” – Access, equity, target groups and families historically underrepresented
 - Strategies must combine and build academics and relationships. Value of families as partners, family leadership.
 - Six FIP areas:
 - Creating a warm and welcoming environment
 - Partnering with families
 - Communication and access

- Connecting families to resources
 - Capacity building
 - Engaging families in academic achievement
 - Document to be posted to school web site

- Events & Fundraisers
 - Give to the Max Recap (Yung). 2016's GTTM raised approximately \$5500. Yung wants to capture stories about Whittier/how funds are used over the next year, this will be ongoing.
 - Dec 13 Project Whittier: Glam Doll Donuts (donates 20%)
 - Dec 13 Staff Appreciation: Donuts and Juice for staff
 - Dec 15 Winter Social: 5:30-7:30 potluck event

- Treasurer Update (Bill)
 - Funding Requests
 - Budget Update

- Current PTA Volunteer Needs
 - Read-a-Thon Committee (Jan/Feb)
 - Food Bus Exploration (Dec/Jan)
 - Spirit Wear Lead (ongoing)
 - PTA Meeting Childcare (adult volunteers 18+)

Next meeting: Monday, January 9, 2017 — 6:30-8:00pm in the Media Center