

Monthly PTA Meeting October 10, 2016

of attendees: 18

- Administration Updates
 - Grounds manicuring — thank you Dave for leading this. School looking in to Pollinator Garden Signage.
 - Visit our Schools Day district event, Saturday 10/15 9am to noon
 - Looking at how interior space (walls and halls) communicated about Whittier
 - Students Vote event on 11/8. Libby is leading, 2nd thru 5th graders will receive a tour through election polling stations and have related curriculum.
 - Volunteers are needed from 9-11am and 1-4pm
 - General election impacts entire school day including before/after programming.
 - Kids who normally eat in multipurpose room will eat in commons area.
 - Entrances for voters: one precinct votes in gym to use circle drive, the other that votes in multipurpose room to use door 17.

- Hot Topic: IB Reauthorization presentation by Libby Dominguez, IB Coordinator.
 - Reauthorization is a system for continuous improvement. Evaluation happens every 5 years and includes a visit from the IB team on 11/10-11. They will visit with staff, students and parent/caregivers. Tentative parent/caregiver meeting at the end of the school day on 11/10. If you are interested in participating contact Libby.
 - Last year's "Self Study" process resulted in an Action Plan that will be posted on the school website.
 - Typically 3 months after the evaluation there will be a follow up from IB. If there were any concerns, additional follow up/action items will be defined.

- Minneapolis Public Schools Referendum
 - <http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/referendum2016>
 - On the Nov 8 ballot is an item to reauthorize this funding which for Whittier is approximately \$450 per student. The funding will last for 9 years.
 - Eight years ago there was a much more visible campaign promoting this. This time a group called Vote Yes For Kids is doing this.
 - School and district administration are not permitted to take a position on the issue but are permitted to disseminate information.
 - **VOTE:** The PTA Membership present at this meeting voted to support voting Yes on the referendum. PTA will promote via social media.

- Events & Fundraisers
 - Community Breakfast, Project Whittier Black Sheep Pizza, Fall Clean Up — thanks to all who made these happen!
 - Oct 25-27 Book Fair and Family Reading Night (Elise, Emily)
 - <http://whittier.mpls.k12.mn.us/bookfair>
 - Shop online 10/20 thru 11/2
<http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/whittierinternationales>
 - Oct 26 Project Whittier Nightingale, 4-10pm. 35% of all sales are donated by this Whittier-family owned business (Paige)
 - Nov 17 Give to the Max Day (Yung)

- Treasurer Update
 - Discuss recent funding requests
 - **VOTE:** Operating Rules update. The PTA Membership present at this meeting voted to adopt clarified operating rules. Updated document to be posted on PTA section of school website.

- Feedback/Questions
 - How frequently is trash picked up on the school grounds? Jeff Carlson stated he would speak with Park Board employee who does this.

Next meeting: Monday, November 14, 2016 — 6:30-8:00pm in the Media Center