

Monthly PTA Meeting
September 12, 2016

of attendees: 25

- Welcome and Introductions
- PTA Overview
 - Non-profit, All Volunteer Run
 - Mission: Benefit Whittier School Community
 - Budget = \$27,400
 - School Programs (79% of budget)
 - Community Building
 - Fundraising
 - Membership
 - \$8 individual, \$15 family
- Volunteer Needs
 - Passive Fundraisers (Box Tops, Amazon Smile) (Ongoing)
 - Easy to do on your own time
 - Spirit Wear (Ongoing)
 - Amity Coordinator (Ongoing, more busy in late Winter/early Spring when interviewing intern candidates)
 - Give to the Max Co-Chair (Fall)
 - Yearbook (Spring)
 - Translation—Spanish & Somali (Ongoing)
- Upcoming Events
 - 9/29 Community Breakfast
 - In partnership with Common Roots, the event will be held from 8:00-9:30 in cafeteria. Volunteers are needed for two shifts: 7:15-8:30, and 8:30 to 10:00
 - 9/29 Project Whittier: Black Sheep Pizza
 - Dine at Black Sheep Coal Fired Pizza Eat Street any time on Thursday, 9/29/2016 and they will donate 10% to Whittier International PTA to support our students' global learning.
 - Ongoing—KBEM School News radio spots. Bill M is spearheading this initiative for students to participate in radio segments that air locally on 88.5 FM.
- Treasurer Update
 - Teacher/Staff requests are evaluated by criteria: Benefits children, has an academic or IB focus, or builds community, and is not normally or typically meant to be funded by the School or District. So far this year we have funded a flocabulary.com subscription and an author interview via Skype to benefit multiple classrooms.
- Hot Topics for 2016-17
 - PTA is seeking input on monthly hot topics to inform future meeting topics or presenters. A list of suggestions was distributed and attendees were asked for

input. If you have additional suggestions please email whittier.pta.mpls@gmail.com

➤ Additional discussion

- Discussion about communication from school. New families are encouraged to engage in the following:
 - Weekly robocall. If you are not receiving this, call the school office at 612-668-4170 and ask that you be added to the robocall list.
 - Enewsletter. This is sent by the school. You can sign up by entering your email address at the bottom of this page: <http://whittier.mpls.k12.mn.us/whittierpta>
 - School facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MPS.Whittier>
 - PTA facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/whittierptampls/>
 - PTA facebook events: <https://www.facebook.com/whittierptampls/events>

- General volunteering guidelines
 - If you are volunteering in the school with kids you need to apply and complete background check through District. Application is here: http://volmps.mpls.k12.mn.us/vol_info Dustin Vognild is the school's staff volunteer coordinator.
 - If you are volunteering for a PTA event, please coordinate with the event chair.

- Acronyms
 - For new families, there were several acronyms used and there were requests for clarification:
 - PTA: Parent Teacher Association
 - IB: International Baccalaureate. For more info visit <http://whittier.mpls.k12.mn.us/IB>
 - SPEN: Special Program for Elementary Needs. <http://whittier.mpls.k12.mn.us/spen>
 - EBD: Emotional/Behavioral Disorder

Next meeting: Monday, October 10, 2016 — 6:30-8:00pm in the Media Center