PTSA General Meeting 2/28/2017

Opened by Odetta at 6:32

**Auction Update (Laura Murray)**

Two new posters are up today!

Some new awesome procurements

* Lien Animal Clinic
* KEXP tickets to some special shows

Get your tickets if you haven’t already!

**Legislative Update (Katherine Henderson for Cecelia Lehmann)**

* State legislature is working to address ramifications of Macleary decision
	+ Republican plan
		- Everyone would pay a flat property tax paid into a state pool that is then paid out to schools
		- People in our district will pay more in property taxes and our schools would receive less funding
	+ Democratic plan
		- Funding for plan unclear at this point
* Levy Cliff looming (no money from levies for schools) Seattle Schools must reduce by 74 million dollars, which is huge
	+ Pathfinder impact
		- Loss of junior staff, possibly counselors, etc.
	+ HB 1059 (Levy Cliff Bill) is held up in Ways and Means Committee (especially by Senator Braun)—please contact and urge others to contact his offices

Principal’s Report (David Dockendorff)

* Enrollment tours are done
	+ 5 K-5 tours, 4 Middle School tours, and 2 Open Houses
	+ Interest was high—no concerns about enrollment
* Budget came out today
	+ Budgeted at a good number of students
		- This year’s budget is low (ramifications of Macleary), and David is hoping to not take from next school year’s money
	+ Fewer cuts than anticipated—David and staff will discuss budget issues and decisions at tomorrow’s staff meeting
	+ David must turn in a budget based on the anticipated cuts as well as a “restorative budget” in case the levy cliff is postponed
* Creative Approach continuing—staff who attended a retreat will be sharing their learning with staff
* Climate Survey—doing them at intervals this year, once in the fall, once in the winter, and once in the spring so that we can compare results
	+ With Middle School the survey was directed to prevent students rushing through it—we will see if the results change
* Attendance—how to maximize students’ attendance?
	+ Sending letters last year seemed to only antagonize parents, not improve attendance
	+ Still working to improve timeliness of attendance
* Auction—should be a great follow-up to last year
* State testing is coming up—information will be coming soon
	+ David wants to urge you to not opt your kid out
		- The data is useful for the school’s use with helping students
		- Every opt-out counts as a 0, so our scores look lower than they should be for prospective parents

**Attendance Focus (Jesse Hemenez, District Attendance Representative** CHECK SPELLING**)**

* Law 2SHB 2449 (Note—since his presentation was developed, four sub-laws have been in review working to make attendance laws more school and/or district based, rather than sending kids to court
* Using this newer approach, his team has had to file fewer cases than in previous years
* Law has several layers starting with all students (sent home in many languages to reach all families) and moving to focus on students who are not attending regularly, helping to plan solutions for students who are struggling with attendance
* Next year, the state wants Community Truancy Boards
	+ Looking for schools to host one of these for the region
* Proposed changes to Attendance Laws—should clarify elements of the current bill

**K-5 Math (Andrea Escame-Hedger)**

* Strategies to boost math success
1. Be positive about math and help them feel success!
	1. Change “I can’t do it!” to “I can’t do it….yet”
2. Help your child develop a growth mindset
	1. Fixed mind set thinks intelligence does not change
		1. Challenges lead to avoidance or quitting
	2. Growth mind sent believe that hard work can develop skill and intelligence
		1. Challenges lead to persistence
3. Help your child develop number sense
	1. Number sense leads to flexible use of numbers
	2. Students who can explain their understanding deepen their understanding
	3. Foundation of all higher-level math
4. Support your child by encouraging them to work through disequilibrium
	1. It’s ok if your student needs a break before re-approaching
5. Build procedural fluency through conceptual understanding
	1. Not aiming for fast and accurate, but for flexibility
	2. It is a progression: concrete 🡪 representational
6. Build number sense and fluency through play
	1. [www.pathfindersummermath.weebly.com](http://www.pathfindersummermath.weebly.com) has resources/games for many grade levels
* Bridges in Mathematics
	+ Consistent and coherent curriculum that is conceptual
* If you want information on how math teaching has changed, look up Jo Boaler at youcubed.org
* Math Club on Thursdays after school for grades 4-8

TO DO:

Email board with DeVos letter

Plan Choc 4 choice

Tell fam re Denver