

Olympus Junior High PTA

9/8/15 Meeting

Attendees: Mr. Grant, Mr. Kepner, Jennifer Kleinman, Melissa Auger, Alyse Christensen, Trina Beckstrand, Lori Allen, Becky Black, Natalie Boss, Heather Johnson, Pamela Delis, Jenn Pingree, Jennifer Holmes, Suzy Rasch, Michelle Kuhn, Katie Gramh, Amy Rich, Etienne Brasher, Ann Marie Hopkins,

Business Meeting =

Budget – Lori Allen: reviewed budget. Brought in \$10,945.92 with fundraiser & donation

PTA Membership – Melissa Auger: All of us need to join the PTA

Fundraising – Shannon Randle: needs any help you can give. It is going well

Teacher Grants – Trina Beckstrand: Deadline in December to use it this year. We have given \$2900 this year then what is left we'll decide what to use it for.

Updated PTA bylaws and last PTA Minutes – Jennifer Kleinman: In the bylaws the only change is the council name to "Olympus Council". Voted to approve by Lori Allen. Second by Natalie Boss and the approval was unanimous. Then PTA minutes ... Motion to approve by Trina Beckstrand then second by Lori Allen and approval was unanimous.

Past Events

Amazing Race Assembly – went well

Health Screening – Jenn Pingree. We have a new school nurse. We did it a new way and it was good. The district has stopped scoliosis checks. Too bad. Now we check everyone in the fall which is great.

Upcoming events

Oct 22 Lunchtime Activity- Robyn Bennion: It will be 70s theme this time. Next ones will be sports and Hawaiian.

Reflections – Becky Black: Some parents have asked where to turn it in. Need to get more info on the school website. Talk to Jessica Moody.

Reality Town – Suzy Rasch: lots of parent volunteers. Working on getting checkbooks donated. We are going to eliminate the meeting the week before and just have parent volunteers come early that day to get assignments.

Top Dog -Natalie Watts

Principal Report

Mr. Grant: Presented the new proposed change to block schedule next year.

He is thrilled to be here at a new school and his favorite time of the day is watching the kids come into the school. They are great kids. He loves relationships the most of his job.

Our test scores for last year were:

Language arts 51%

Math 60%

Science 53%

-So we need some improvement. We are looking at why this is happening. This is an average of 7th, 8th and 9th graders. We are ahead of the district and state average but they are low if you look at a comparison of the socioeconomic area we live in.

-For Mountain Ridge Jr. High in the highland area here are the scores: Language 60%, Math 69%, and Science 75%

-For Draper Park Middle School by corner canyon here are the scores: Language 63%, Math 69%, and Science 76%

-Granite District has gone to a 5x5 block model. They double block math every day of every grade. In seventh grade it is English everyday too. In 8th grade it is science every day instead of English. In 9th it is CTE or up to the school what else they focus on.

-Some problems with this is you get rid of some electives. You spend more time in Math, English, and Science. It really impacts the electives. At the end of the day change it hard.

-He will have to hire more math teachers, some elective teachers will leave. They will have to teach more classes.

-This is more of a schedule for a 7-8 school. In 9th grade biology takes a hit. AP. Geography takes a hit.

-If we want to increase proficiency and opportunity we have to do remediation during the day. The goal would be to have students have the same teacher all three years. 30 minutes each day.

M/W Advisory = Channel One/Grades/Read/Mentor/Homework. Students who are doing well are peer mentoring other students. Or reading.

T/TH Flex = extra help. Concept help for kids that are struggling in math or science.

-Katie Graham – From Community Council doing a ton of research. They are hearing good feedback from Evergreen so far.

-Teachers can help realistically 15 kids in 30 minutes during flex time according to Mr. Grant

-Jennifer Kleinman asked if we cannot have early out on Friday? That is above Mr. Grant's pay grade.

-Will Evergreen kids come in with more credits? Oly = 90% take seminary so they take 6 credits in. At evergreen they have 40% seminary so they often take more. This year 9 credits?

-What are our options? Teachers have proposed a seven period day with an advisory in it. Take away DEAR time?

-In granite out of 16 schools, 9 are on the 5x5 now. You can share teachers if you do it with neighboring schools.

-Class sizes are similar to now in core classes but in electives there will be more kids.

-It seems like a part of the problem is some teachers are not performing up to the standards needed. How is that handled? Mr. Grant is trying to address those issues.

-There was discussion about 9th grade moving to the high school. Ann Marie Hopkins said this is such a big change and not great for 9th grade so maybe just move them all at once. Jennifer Kleinman said the current community council at the high school is not pushing it. It will come from the community. Skyline discussed it last year and Wasatch said no so it is on hold.

-Katie says they will hold a parent forum and then vote on this issue. A decision needs to be made by December.