

OPTO Meeting Notes

November 21, 2019, 5:00pm

Attendees:

Shannon, Theresa, Jen, Colleen, Chrissie, Kristan, Trish, Margaretta, Sara, Rachel, Soomie, Luni, Caroline, Caty, Liz.

Note: Every parent is a member of OPTO and is welcome to join the OPTO meetings.

Meeting Notes/Summary:

Margaretta moved to pass the October minutes. Soomie seconds the motion. All agreed.

Positive Discipline

- Peggy agreed to facilitate another class, coming up in January - dates in the newsletter. Normally she charges \$500 per series. The last session was fully subscribed and went well.
- Shannon proposed OPTO would fund this next session, with first spots offered to those who have never taken it before. Kristan second. Vote to fund this was approved. Shannon will provide Kristan the list of names.

Community Building Committee

- The CBC would like \$100 for the holiday shop. Not totally defined as to what it would be used for but, will focus the money on wrapping (regular paper will take too much time, kids are on their own with student helpers.) Luni says there is a surplus in the community building fund from tee shirts, so there is money available.
- The CBC is also reaching out to Mosaic to offer a refreshments table for additional community building. This event will take place in the commons. Trish says the laminator room will be where stuff gets dropped off during the week.

Lice at Odyssey

- Nathan from Lice Girls gave an overview of their history and lice in general in the area. Has been a rough year overall with regards to Lice. Lice Girls can help write school policies, to help with foster care, the state, the tribes, sell their own product line. Could provide educational resources to families, could also do screenings, have also created a membership program, family or school version.
- State recommends a no nit policy be in place, because lice are not a vector for illness. They are pest, but not an illness. It takes a very experienced person to see the eggs, old egg, new egg, etc. Important part is educating. Coat racks/hats should not be adjacent to each other. But most lice transition is head to head contact, not adjacent object contact (95%).
- Open communication will allow everyone to act on it. Book by David Shannon, "No David" is a good book about lice. Also "Bugs in My Hair" is another good book. Lots of education and discussions have happened in the classroom per Margaretta. The number of cases should be decreasing.
- Shannon has arranged for Lice Girls to come to Odyssey for volunteer checks on Tuesday 12/3. Detail has been sent via Slack. Parents can opt in.

7/8 request for Bus Funding

- Lis has requested funding for transportation from school to the Gates Foundation and back. Seattle center and back, under \$400, includes ferry fees.
- Liz suggested she could make a plan for her field trips for next year's rotation. The only field trip this year is Seattle Art Museum. She does want to go to SAM and hopes that it is free (TBD.) Total budget is \$2840. Liz will find out if the SAM is free and also Trish says it may be able to come out of the building fund. Underground tour is a hit and will do that again.
- Luni mentioned that there is a process for events off campus that need to be funded through BISD the reimbursed by OPTO.

Marimba Field Trip

- Theresa brought up the marimba field trip, walk to BPA. Teachers are all on board and it is already in the budget.
- 220 tickets for Odyssey including teachers and chaperones. All OPTO approved. Invoice will go to BISD vs OPTO.

Teacher Feedback Re Parent Role as Volunteers

- Discussed the shoulder to shoulder parent volunteer model and history. How does it look and how is it defined. Good discussion followed about how this manifests itself. Key is to keep top of mind this question of the three legs of the stool when decisions are made.
- Teachers are talking about the core tenants. Trish mentioned an example about the schedule that it was not ideal in practice, looked good on paper, but once set it was clear we wanted to change.
- Jen suggested the teachers talk to parents about what their vision, aspirations etc. are in relation to parent involvement. Value in the open dialog.
- Margareta mentioned they will talk within the teacher community to get a common understanding, absorb them as a starting point with new staff. Will determine what the right moment/moments of engagement and dialog with the parent community (large or small, etc.) Moving through that for common understanding right now and how to deliver through the classroom.

Book Fair

- Colleen mentioned the book fair is coming up (ran out of time for much discussion on this, however.)

Meeting adjourned, 6:30pm.