

**PRINCIPALS REPORT**

Mr. Cinnamon was unable to attend, however Kelly Rettig represented faculty at the meeting. Other attendees included Sharon Ashworth, Aline Hoey, Kelly Barker, Shana Good, Dani Lotton-Barker, Cindy McCoy, Laura Diaz-Moore,

REPORT FROM KELLY JONES, SITE-COUNCIL (see attachment)

The Elementary School Consolidation Task Force is now considering a number of consolidation/closure scenarios. Kelly Jones, a Cordley representative on the Task Force updated the Cordley Site Council and PTA on the various scenarios proposed. The Task Force is asking the School Board for more time to consider and re-evaluate the proposals.

Please refer to Map at the end of the minutes. This map was created with the information given by the school district. The school district has a goal that a school operates at 90% usage. Over 90% there is not enough room to shuffle and under 90% a school loses efficiencies. Looking at the map you can see the projection of usage for the year 2016. You can see that the usage at sunflower and broken arrow are suspected to go down. Quail Run and Deerfield appear to be flat. The growth appears to be in Central and East Lawrence. But how do we expand to accommodate the growth in Central and East Lawrence? And, consider the deferred maintenance (for example Cordley has a 90 year old boiler that needs replacement; a proposal that the PTA cover some of the costs was suggested by the district) Options include:

- Cordley/NY at Cordley
- Cordley/NY at NY
- Cordley/Kennedy at 19th and Haskell
- Cordley/Kennedy at 15th and Haskell

Here are some concerns and thoughts brought forth by those in attendance at the PTA meeting:

- What are we willing to compromise if the decision is to close Cordley? (19th/Haskell new building including removal of the existing fire station was not well received by PTA)
- ELL may not be continued in the future. So, why keep cluster sties such as Cordley open?
- Highest needs kids having to travel further to school. Is the school district going to accomodate transportation? Probably not.
- Consider “urban center core schools” There is not enough land surrounding to expand. Do schools go up instead of out? If they grow out they will have to take residences. Some schools do not have capability of growing outward. For example NY boundaries are of a river and downtown. Cordley is surrounded by Residential. So, reconsider Hillcrest.
- “Urban settings are ok, but they aren’t for everybody.”

Contact Kelly Jones if you have a concern or plan that you would like site council to consider.



TREASURER REPORT (see attachment)

Holiday Family did not spend more money than taken in. Actually \$9.00 left over from the Rotary Club donation which we are waiting to hear what to do with it.

Chess Club made money. Still have to pay for rooms.
One last bill from farm to school was paid and Insurance was renewed.
Aline will get a bank card to pay for Teacher wish list.

HOLIDAY FAMILIES (see attachment)

“What people give is amazing - the basement is full of gifts and the parents are so grateful.”

TEACHER WISH LIST

We have the requests. The dollar amount is equal to the amount allocated in the budget. Ordering will begin this month and a bank debit card will be used for the transactions.

NEW BUSINESS

Marathon club idea will be voted on by the PTA at the February 1 meeting. The Club to be started by Alee Phillips and Stephanie Unekis will meet 2 mornings a week at 8:00 a.m. 5 times around the playground equals 1 mile. A child gets a ticket for each mile to work toward running a marathon. The club will begin in March. Proposal is to come in Feb. Approximately two volunteers will be needed each morning. Children dropped off not in the club parents will be notified. Other clubs in town give plastic shoes or stickers for each mile.

Perhaps a 1/2 marathon for this year would be best since it is starting late in the year?

KU Womens Basketball wants to have a Cordley night. Possible dates to consider are Feb 24th and Feb. 8th. Laura Diaz-Moore will inquire. A notice will be put in the Jan newsletter to encourage people to go to the game. (schools with the most number of attendees could receive grant money of \$2,500.)

NEW INITIATIVE OPTIONS

We need to think about money that we have and what we can do with it. Single events could include Family Nights, Reading Nights. Focus on educational, low-cost events and use money for prizes.

Longer term promotional events could include: “Try to read a million minutes”. “Get caught reading” (someone calls the child and if they are reading at home when called then their name is read in the announcements). One comment was that this felt creepy.

The hope is to do something in the spring. Perhaps a single event that could be a precursor to a longer term event. The goal is to get families to participate in helping kids learn .

Kick off to summer reading with a reading night. Have a public librarian come and speak or maybe even get Priscilla Howe?



Perhaps a reading night when everyone comes in pj's and brings a flash light. Lights are out and different stations are set up to look like camping and parents read at each "camp-site" then the child goes to the next "camp-site" for a different book.

Science and Social Studies

Pancake Feed and reading after breakfast will be continued and it was said by Kelly Rettig that this was a great program.

Summer Fair night. Show things that can be done in the summer. (Events taking place, clubs, programs)

Career Education awareness. Parents come and talk about their careers and how they do math or read everyday in their careers

Story Day. Teachers dress up as favorite characters.

Pot Luck. Come dressed as your favorite fictional characters.

Kelly Rettig with inquire at the Teacher Staff meeting if teachers are willing to participate or if this should be a PTA only function.

Facebook could be used to solicit ideas:

Advertise summer programs

Prizes could include: Gift Certificates to:

Art Center, Parks and Rec Programs, Community Theater Clubs and Programs,
Sunflower Ceramic Shop, 1/2 price book store.

Citizen Science offers some fun activities.

Kansas Wildlifer Program (kansaswildlife.com)

Two things to keep in mind. Something small for this year and long term ideas. Please submit ideas by Jan 29th. PTA will decide in Feb which event we should put together for April or May.