

STEELE ELEMENTARY

PTA MEETING MINUTES



Tuesday, October 4th, 2016
6:00-7:30 pm

- **Welcome & Introductions** (President Sarah Chapman) 10 mins
 - Round Robin: Everyone give their name, kids' names, grade, teacher, and favorite candy
 - There were 24 attendees

- **Guest Speaker** 15mins
 - Yes on 3A/3B (Mike Cerbo)- Mike Cerbo gave an update on 3A (Mill Levy) and 3B (The Bond). The Mill Levy would generate \$57 Million for projects that directly impact students and teachers. Funding would be generated through a slight increase in property tax. The Bond will focus on building infrastructure—expanding buildings, improving cooling options, and classroom technology. The Bond would have no tax impact. Over \$1M of the achieved funding will go to Steele. Visit www.forddenverkids.com for more information

- **Steele Update and Q/A** (Principal Kevin Greeley and Teachers) 20 mins
 - Para/Intern Differentiation
 - Steele currently has 6 Paras. A Para may or may not have a teaching license. They are assisting in the classroom while not requiring teaching instruction from the lead teacher. A para is 1.5-2x more expensive than an intern.
 - Steele currently has 12 interns. An intern is seeking teaching licensure. They are normally assigned to a more experienced teacher, and do not stay for the full school year. Part of the Lead Teachers' role, is instructing the intern
 - Teacher Updates (These are highlights. Please see your teacher communications for more detailed information)
 - 2nd grade is working on rules of government, main ideas, and character traits. In math they are working on expanded form
 - 3rd grade is understanding concerns of rural area access to books and reading and contributions of ethnic groups. In math they are working on multiplication and concepts of doubling
 - 4th /5th graders are working on reading and writing poetry, presentation skills, Colorado history and geography, and animal defense mechanisms. 4th graders are working on multi-step problem solving and division with remainders. 5th

graders are working on fractions

- Art
 - 4/5 working on photography with an exhibit planned for 1/12
 - 3rd grade working on 2d and 3d composition unity
 - 2nd grade working on drawing landscapes
 - 1st grade studying artist Laurel Burch
 - K learning to tell stories with pictures
- Drama
 - K/1 are acting out stories together
 - 2nd grade working on reading scripts
- Music
 - 3rd grade working on notable rhythm, pitch, and melody
 - 4/5 working on writing lyrics and musical notes
- PE
 - Classes were able to meet and interact with female rugby players. Flicker Ball will be starting for grades 3-5

- **New Business**

- Budget Update (Patti Welch) 45 mins
- Teacher Funding Requests Approval (Principal Greeley)
 - No items to approve
- Committee Lead Updates
 - Moondance (Kim/Crissy)
 - Moondance has received a record number of catalog items. Please ensure you use the map provided not the PTA website, as parking is limited
 - Carnival (Carrie)
 - Carnival was a huge success ,raising \$3,243. The Bike-a-Thon raised \$1,480
 - Home Tour (Sarah on behalf of committee)
 - There will be an intro meeting on 10/18 at 6pm for those interested in volunteering
 - Garden (Andra)
 - Dig-It-Day will be on 10/15 from 8:30-1. 2 more Farmers Markets for the year.
 - CSC (Nikki and Kevin)
 - Kevin gave an overview on CSC, whose charter is to help write an unified improvement plan for Steele, evaluate the Principal, approve budget decisions, and provide an overall accountability. CSC was formed after a teacher strike in 1994. It is composed of 4 parents, 4 teachers, and the principal. They are currently seeking a community member
 - Nikki gave an update on ideas for the PTA surplus- which includes items such as new books, Promethean accessories, new computers, and large ticket items such as new laminator. There was also discussion of more potential Parent Nights
 - Communications (Jim)
 - Only 247 families are currently confirmed in the directory. Families that are not confirmed are not able to sign up for volunteer opportunities through MSA. EB and Communications team will discuss options to address this

- Volunteer Recognition
- November PTA meeting date change (11/15)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 15th, 2016

Adjourn - Social Gathering at The Blackbird