

PTA General Meeting

January 8, 2019

Steele Elementary

Minutes

By Substitute: Kim Kobernusz

Started at 6:05 with 19 members in attendance

Meeting started with Kim Kobernusz making a motion to approve the November minutes and Greg Meehan 2nd the motion. All approved.

DPS representative never showed for our meeting on Choice Process.

Principal Cindy started with putting a few items on our radar:

1. This semester starts out fast with short weeks and long weekends.

March 22nd, the Friday before Spring Break is a teacher professional development day with no kids in session.
2. Christina Sylvester, principal from Merrell, will be here at Steele Thursday for a coffee/information talk with parents from 9-10:00.
3. Parent Teacher Conferences this March will be led by students and All parents will want to be apart of it. March 11-21st look for sign ups in future.
4. Balarat for 5th graders will be May 9th and 10th.
5. CMAS state testing will begin TUESDAY after Spring Break April 2-18th. 3 days of literacy, 3 days of math and for 5th graders 3 days of Science.
6. Please continue to have your kids here at Steele. We have increased our attendance from 65% this time last year to 71%....keep the curve going up and get your kids to school when healthy.
7. Art Show will be Thursday May 2nd from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.
8. Cindy brought up one place to find current information of the DPS and Teacher negotiations:
 - a. greatteach.dpsk12.org
 - b. January 18th is deadline for negotiations
 - c. Four more meetings January 11th, 15th, 17th and 18th
 - d. Salary negotiations were determined in September with agreement
 - e. Now they are negotiating the Mill Levy Money Collected through taxes – how will this be divided
 - f. If nothing is reached by January 18th, a strike vote will happen 19th
 - g. District is ready to appeal to State – DPS will ask state to intervene/state will have 180 days to help figure out
 - h. Ali Sweeney Mentioned things we can do as parents to help
 - i. Attend negotiation meetings

- ii. Contact Board Representative/Ann Rowe
- iii. Get Informed – many schools aren't like Steele and have a 20% turnover rate yearly with their teachers, DPS is lowest in all of CO, which is bottom 10 states in US
- iv. Email Governor and State Legislature
- i. Jessica Meehan suggested Colorado Public Radio has a good perspective to listen to - get more information.

CSC/Collaborative School Committee – Ali Sweeney/parent representative shared how they are preparing the Steele Budget with Cindy and if we have any priorities to please speak up now. Cindy is wanting to project less students for next year, because a.) we have a big 5th grade class leaving and she would like to see 27 kids per class vs. 28 and 29. b.) If we project more students than we get we have to give money back, but if we project fewer and get more than projected we get more money later. The program where we have gotten our British Stanley Primary/Boetcher 2nd educators has become a secondary source vs. a primary source and our cost are increasingly higher than ever before. BUDGET is TIGHT!!!!

Home Tour is looking for NEW BLOOD to step in and SHADOW so the torch can be handed off smoothly for next year and years to come. We don't want to have to learn on the job for next year. Please get involved and see what opportunities are available. First HOME TOUR General meeting is at Nisha Ashley's house 627 S. Williams Wednesday January 16th from 6:00-8:00. Check out My School Anywhere for jobs available.

Volunteer Opportunity for a parent who picks up or drops off to Discovery Link. LOST and FOUND needs a person to organize the Lost and Found so parents and kids can quickly go through clothes and find the owner fast.

Science Fair – Not to late to sign up! Reach out to Sean Jourdan. We have a great number attending. Need Judges. \$50 Amazon Award and so much FUN!

Steele Family Movie Night – Friday February 22nd. Not a drop off. Come see the movie as a family. More details to follow.

Grocery Card Refill – Don't forget to refill your cards EVERYTIME you shop.

Next PTA Meeting Tuesday February 12th 6:00 p.m.