

STEELE ELEMENTARY

PTA MEETING AGENDA



Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2014

6:00 pm

Auditorium

- Sept. Minutes approved.
- Principal update: Interim testing over the past few weeks. Assessments in literacy and math, some online. Online testing went very well. Kindergarten math testing is like an interview. Monday will be spent grading assessments and working on student learning objectives. There will be year-long objectives with checkpoints throughout the year. Tuesday will be data analysis of the assessments and hone in on individual needs. Introduced Amanda Thomas our new 4/5 pt resource who begins tomorrow. Taught six years. Coming up with extensions for projects that the 4/5 team are already working on. Goal to make sure that kids get more work that is thoughtful that pushes their thinking. Hours 1130 to 330. K1 on track. Doing small moments for writing. Rolling out reading groups. Being respectful in the community. 2/3 started the year with personal narratives, science of sound, making instruments, 4/5 moving out of personal narratives, into informational writing, US regions, culture, state research, transitioning into science using powder substances and their properties. Interventionist for K-2 working on letters, sounds, rapping out words, work with a set of kids in six week blocks.
- Carnival update: Cynthia and Sergio need a thank you for letting us bring the carnival indoors. Last month we approved a request to fund the carnival. Costs at \$2027. Bike-a-thon raised \$2896. Felt like a true community event.
- Summary of accounts: spent \$177K last month to pay for second educators, interventionists, 4/5 teachers, stipends, field day, art show, rocketry and DPS outreach program from 2014 home tour.
- Rebekah fundraising plan for the school year, we set a goal and then show progress against that goal. \$170K for 2014/15, and we have a huge operating budget. \$162K is our projected operating budget. Home tour target is \$60K; bike-a-thon target is \$1500; Steele Dines Out \$2500; Stallion Fund direct giving and fall party total target is \$100K; last year our goals were similar and we raised \$192K.
- Status of volunteer needs – volunteer opportunities are listed on Steele website, have everything from one hour to multiple hours; get the word out; contact Crissy if you have an event that needs volunteers.
- Trevor requested funding from the PTA for a fifth grade art project this year. PTA approved it. New funding process. Need someone to pay for materials in advance so that PTA reimburses. This project will try to be a living project throughout the year.
- Family Programs and School Activities Committee
 - Connect for respect update from Darci: launching Steele Living the Code project 14/15 intense look at Steele code. Take it to the next level. Living the code, not just saying it. Student and parent driven. Monthly activities that relate to the themes in the code. Student council will be driving it. Soul Shoppe coming back Oct. 30 for a school assembly. Tied more into the work about living the code.
- Fundraising and Events Committee
 - Tickets on sale now and sold seven tables in first day. \$11,400 in Steele Stallion fund so far. Home Tour looking at South Side homes this year with a block party at South HS. Need ops person. Need help with sponsorship and ads.
- Garden Committee
 - Saturday cleanup day in the garden. Bring tools. 8 to 2. Huge effort. Rainbow week was a success. Brought the school together and taught the kids about nutrition.
- Communications Committee
 - Meeting coming up Oct. 28. Trying to get the print directory done. Friday will be deadline to confirm info.
- Finance Committee: Have a treasurer for stallion fund and the Art of Education – Evan.
- Membership Committee
 - 50 members to date – no teachers have joined the PTA this year.

- Ballot Issues regarding Education
 - Amendment 68 (CO PTA, Denver Post, school boards don't support)
 - Would establish a K-12 education fund to provide additional revenue to address local educational needs. The fund would be financed through additional revenues generated by the expansion of gaming at horse racetracks in the counties of Arapahoe, Mesa and Pueblo.
 - Denver Preschool Program
 - Continues the .12 percent sales tax that is set to expire in 2016 and imposed an additional increase of .03 percentage to expand the Denver Preschool Program.
 - Proposition 104
 - Requires open school board meetings for collective bargaining negotiations between board of education and unions.
- Next Meeting: Wed., Nov. 12
 - Middle School Presentations – ask for volunteers to secure presenters from area middle schools for our Nov. meeting (public schools only)
 - Kiki to present for DSST Byers
 - Welchs will present for Merrill – Open House Nov. 5;
 - West Wash Park Assn. mtg at DSST next week to discuss history – Nov. 22 7 – 9
 - Steele Dads basketball night Wed. 630 here at Steele;
 - Handlebar owned by Steele family – farmers market and garden ideas
- Adjourn – Sports Alley Gathering