

STEELE ELEMENTARY

PTA MEETING MINUTES



Tuesday, January 12, 2016
6:00-7:30 pm
Auditorium

- **Welcome & Introductions** (President Ann Shiveley)
 - 26 attendees including teacher and PTA board
 - Round Robin: Everyone introduced themselves

- **Reading of Minutes & Approval** (Secretary Sarah Allen)
 - Minutes approved

- **Steele Update and Q/A** (Principal Kevin Greeley and Teachers)
 - CSC Update – Erica Spoor. Update on budgeting (on track), PARC scores, planning underway for spring topics using input from parents and teachers. Topics have included sub-populations support (intervention work for example), staff professional development options and optimizing classroom technology integration. Two parent positions on the CSC will be open next year.
 - Differentiated Roles – Kevin Greeley. DPS district program rolled out at Steele this year. Teachers take on a role of teacher plus school leader/coach. These teachers teach half time and coach the other. This program will be called Teacher Leader and Collaboration next year. “Beyond Common Core Leaders” will collaborate with teachers that are work outside Common Core – ex. Specials teachers. Program goals: Increase leadership opportunities, forum for teachers to share their expertise with one another, increase coaching and learning opportunities for all staff members. One “coach” coaches six teachers at Steele. The limit is eight. First year teacher survey results were very positive. Next year – three team leads. New third lead will coach 2/3. Elevating the profession, so teachers are not “isolated” in their classrooms.
 - Grade updates
 - Kindergarten – Three teachers, just finished a science curriculum, working on reading and comparing texts, narrative unit is writing to teach what “you know.”
 - Second grade – They are reading fables and studying rocks and minerals.
 - Third grade – Reading about animal characteristics and incorporating content into a science unit. Math -- starting on fractions. Science is focused on electricity.
 - Fourth/Fifth grade – Fourth graders are beginning rocketry. Literacy unit is focused on the rain forest and looking at rain forests around the world. Pairing writing with research on rain forests. Looking through the lens of a “scientist.”
 - Specials – Visual arts – kids are working on the Shakespeare banners, which PTA helped to fund. Drama – Kinder/1st the kids are doing drama stations. Third grade will be performing The Wizard of Oz. Second graders are doing a “puppet” section. 4th/5th are moving into the Shakespeare festival with themed plays for each of the six classes. The festival is April 29th.
 - Special Education – Working on reading fluency and de-coding words. Intervention team is wrapping up their intervention cycle this week.

- **Reports of Officers and Standing Committees**

- Finance – Steele has raised \$140K to date. Spending budget for 15/16 is \$183K. Great progress, but still a need for continued successful fundraising to support budget.
- Fundraising and Events – Home Tour 2016: Tour is May 7th. New partnership with 5280 they will promote the Tour. Stallion Fund Update: Great success! Raised \$126K the goal was \$115K. Havana Nights raised \$98,747, Colorado Gives \$27K (\$11K was raised on Colorado Gives Day).
- Volunteers – No updates
- Garden Committee – No updates
- Communications Committee – Steele family survey went out in December. The results will be presented at the February PTA meeting. Looking for a co-editor for the Stallion next year and for the PTA website.
- Family Programs and School Activities – A Winter dance will be held Friday, February 19th from 6-8 pm. There will be a DJ and snacks provided. Tickets will be sold. Parents will be asked to attend with their kids.
- Membership – No Updates

- **New Business**

- PTA Succession Planning (Ann Shiveley)
 - Starting succession planning and recruitment in January. Ann gave an overview of the open roles. Mixer on 1/27 6:30-8pm at Ann's house to discuss open roles and opportunities.
- President's Update (Ann Shiveley)
 - Archery Grant Request Approved – Program to begin this spring
 - Discretionary Funds Opportunity – Still open for parents and teachers to make a funding request for programs, learning materials, etc. There is \$14K still available.

- **Volunteer Recognition (All)**

- Rebekah Marcus for year round sponsorship work.
- Holiday's around the World Parent volunteers

Science Fair Organizers

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Adjourn – Social Gathering