

Defer PTO

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors and Officers

February 9, 2016

Defer Elementary School

7:00 PM

Attendance: Renee Palazzolo, Christina Michaud, Kim Rhodes, Mary Beth Coffey, Karen Sullivan, Janette High, Becca Ozar, Heather Wiegand, Kelley McLean

1. **Call to Order and Introductions:** Renee Palazzolo at 7:05, no introductions
2. **Member Presentation/Request:** none
3. **Review of January Minutes:** Ryan and Mary Beth Coffey: Fix misspelled names. Buddy bench is from the Girl Scout Junior troop 70993, not Ozar family. Motion to approve by R. Palazzolo, second by B. Ozar, motion passed.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Emily Summerfield – not present, no report
5. **Vice President's Report:** Becca Ozar
 - a. Wayne county academic calendar changing this next school year. Calendar will be aligned with Oakland and Macomb.
 - b. GPFPE \$69,000+ given out to schools in the district.
 - c. Question was asked how much PTO pays for school assemblies. \$1000 is the base, then we add as necessary.
 - d. Nadia Tremonti, friend of the doctor who brought the Flint lead problem to light, suggested instead of water, donate books to the children of Flint. Flintkids.org is a resource for more ways to get involved and help out. Becca will look into whether or not there are Scholastic Dollars left to use toward this end.
 - e. Disability Awareness Workshop update. Great concern that we get enough volunteers to run the program. Defer's date will be April 6. Bob Moorhead and Angie Cole will be parent leaders for the Defer workshop.
 - f. Town Hall Meetings: held at South, Parcels, North on different evenings (see specifics in Principal's Report below). Contact the superintendent's office if you are interested in attending.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. Volunteers – Heather Weigand
 - i. Heather has started to reach out to committee chairs about next year. 5th grade promotion, BINGO, Pumpkin Patch, Box Tops, Disability Awareness Workshop, Fun Run, lunchtime enrichments, morning office support are among the positions we will need to fill for the next year. Karen said the office could handle

figuring everything out logistically for lunchtime enrichment, they would just need a chair to find the parents and figure out the classes.

- ii. Heather would like to fine tune the list of choices for volunteer opportunities, to make sure we are best using our assets/volunteers.
- b. Fundraising – Aaron Oestreich -- not present, no report.
- c. Membership – Becca Ozar – A to Z was renewed.
- d. Hospitality – Kim Rhodes
 - i. Donuts with your Dragon – Successful event. It was nice that two grades held events right after so parents could stay. There was the catch that more than one person came with their “dragon”. The suggestion was to order more donuts for the next time around to ensure there will be enough for everyone. The next Donuts with your Dragon on March 18. Discussion as to when to hold future Donut events – 2, 1, what time of year.
 - ii. Spring Social – Nothing to report at this time. May 24. Kim would like to sell \$2 tickets for the ice cream so Wally’s is getting a ticket for each cup/cone of ice cream to help control the amount.
- e. Communications – Christina Michaud – Newsletter deadline Thurs Feb 25
- f. School Board Observer – Kelley McLean – Again, change of the school calendar, which will affect our spring break next year.

7. Teachers Report: Janette High – nothing to report

8. Principal’s Report: Karen Sullivan

- a. K-info night, at least 30 families attended. Registration for young 5’s is open until the end of February at which point the lottery will begin.
- b. Lunchtime enrichment goes until March 4.
- c. Assemblies: writing assembly April 5 (grades 2 -5); Disability Awareness Workshop April 6; Motor City opera group April 18, for two 45 minute morning performances, based on Billy Goats’ Gruff, with an anti-bullying theme.
- d. Townhall Meetings in March (3/1 at South, 3/3 at Parcels, 3/10 at North, from 6 – 9pm). Superintendent is looking for representation from all schools at each meeting. The district strategic plan will be presented. Tour Parcels where the district technology is housed. Chris Fenton will share outstanding projects in the district, what is the funding source. What are the priorities for the district? Dr. Niehaus is looking for input from the entire district community.
- e. Strategic Plan: District Mission: Promote innovation, maximize potential, embrace community. Vision: One GP: where everyone learns, every day. Focus areas: curriculum, instruction, assessment; embedded professional development; infrastructure & technology; and community connections.

9. President’s Report: Renee Palazzolo

- a. Updated request form for PTO funds – tabled until next month. Looking for feedback and streamlining.

- b. Bingo Night – will be moved to March 11 to avoid conflict with the Boy Scout Pinewood Derby. Karen Sullivan will come up with a list of possible “prizes” student players could win (assist with announcements, etc.), maybe candies for the rush of winners.

10. Old Business: -- none

11. New Business

- a. New law passed in MI that school organizations cannot disseminate information regarding ballot measures/elections. It is likely that the MI legislature will go back and change this law.
- b. At Trombly there are new signs stating no parking here, as a suggestion for Nottingham.

12. Member Comment -- none

13. Adjourn at 8:04

Next Meeting: March 8th, 2016