

STEM PTA

Meeting minutes May 10, 2017

Meeting called to order at 2 p.m.

Principal's report

Mrs. Maconochie reassured the group that STEM is not moving to Smith Middle School, an idea present recently at the school board meeting.

MSTEP testing is done. Students all did very well. Generally all grades in all categories scored as proficient or better on the state test.

Forty five STEM eighth graders applied to DCMST and 28 were accepted.

STEM received 145 applications for incoming sixth graders. She is waiting until the spring NWEA results are available next week to determine whom to invite. The school will not just fill seats if it seems there are not enough qualified applicants. That has previously resulted in some students who constantly struggle.

Seventh grade next year will NOT have two-person teams. Students will have different teachers for each of the four core subjects, although they may repeat for STEM Aps.

Consent items - Minutes and financial report accepted.

Old business –

Book Fair – Case sale is set for June 7 on the science fair/art show/concert night. Ms. Fryzel is working out a schedule for students to visit during school before the evening sale. Katie Hetrick will set up a SignUp Genius once she knows the schedule. Watch the STEM blog for more information.

Mrs. Maconochie said she recently learned that STEM students are allowed to use the Howe library. She asked administration to consider adding more middle school titles. PTA may consider buying some books for Ms. Fryzel and/or the library from the book fair proceeds.

Promotion is June 15 at 1:30. Discussion focused on what type of refreshments to provide – something like cookies that families could enjoy or goody bags just for students to take. Promotion occurs during Ramadan. Seventh grade parents will be asked to donate baked items to be prepackaged for students. We will shoot for 300 servings. Several suggestions were made for a small gift for students. The group liked the idea giving students a photo of the eighth grade class. PTA will also provide decorations. Budget for the event was raised to \$300.

Officer nominations for next year were discussed. Ayda El-Saghir will continue as treasurer and Katie Hetrick as president. Nida Maimi agreed to be membership chair. We will ask for a vice president and secretary at the sixth grade orientation on May 31 or otherwise elect next year.

New business

New marching band banner – PTA agreed to pay up to \$100 for a new banner for the marching band with the new logo.

Open house instead of picnic – Ms. Maconochie was told that we are not allowed to have a welcome-back picnic because all schools must have an open house. PTA asked if we could write in protest or start a petition. She asked that she be allowed to talk to her supervisor first and express our feelings. She will let Katie and Ayda know if the open house is planned.

Mother's Day Flower sale was cancelled this year after Ayda determined that students want cut flowers instead of a potted flower. By that time, it was too late to pre-order the carnations from the wholesaler we used last year.

Meeting adjourned at 2:59