

PTCA Meeting 1/10/12

Recent events:

School photos - PTCA worked with Christine Gallagher - fundraiser for elementary - \$8,956 - \$2239 profit for PTCA - thanks to Elizabeth Carr

Wreath auction - Middle school - 12/6/11 - grossed \$590

Winterfest - held at Ebenezer - rental fee of \$2500 donated by PTCA - considering a different venue for next year

Hosted Holiday Teacher Appreciation - thanks to Beth Powell, Vendredi Hardeman, Victoria Trestrail - our "Elves" delivered Target gift cards - \$4900 to teachers and staff

Elizabeth Carr headed up the recent teacher workroom makeover - budget of \$1500, spent less than \$100 - lots of sweat equity! Please check it out!!

Upcoming:

Third Friday Coffee 1/20/12 - Ellie Hopkins will be available to notarize paperwork - 2 other parents have volunteered to help as well

Bingo Night - Super heroes and Super villains - Friday, February 10 at Elementary

Masquerade Dance - 2/24 - Middle School

Mini-grants - on our second round - deadline is 2/3 - please apply! Must be a PTCA member to be eligible

Auction is March 3! Great evening of fun and fundraising!

Lara Zelski led attendees in wishing Matt Underwood a happy birthday!!

Three workshops of 20 minutes each are available tonight - attendees can attend 2 of 3

- Code of Conduct

- New website

- New elementary report cards

*** Report cards -

Why are we changing?

Parental and teacher feedback that writing narratives and creating report cards is time-consuming - ultimately takes away from classroom instruction.

We are trying to get to a more concise version while holding true to narrative version we love - more efficient and effective, more at-a-glance will be more beneficial - New condensed format actually supplies more detail -

also aligns with middle school and how they are formatting their progress reports -

less paper for records-keeping purposes

How is it changing?

Not going to A, B, C format - 2 major differences - no content descriptors - expectation that teachers do a good job of communicating what is being learned during the term - 2nd difference is that there will be an extra measure of student progress.

New report card: E will stand for exceeding grade level standards (performing at least a grade level ahead of expectations); M for meeting grade level standards; P for progressing to grade level standards; N for not meeting standards.

Writing sample and rubric will be included; narrative will be included; grade level equivalent for reading level - same indicators as state for writing assessment

What will it look like? Samples are available -

*** Code of Conduct -

Available as a pdf on Guiding Principles page of website

*** Website

Online courier submission - you can get to courier submission from link on homepage, or through news and events page - easy to use form - can specify how notice is given and to which news feed it is assigned - excerpt that you see in the courier; body of post is full announcement.

Submissions are pending until read and approved (twice per week)
reading lists available

homepage also has featured items from news feed

calendar items can be imported into iCal (and perhaps outlook)

We are pushing the teachers to use the blogs as their main form of communication

Board reports are all available on the website - important for community to be informed about hard choices board must make. PTCA minutes are also available

Family directory - must login to access - can order by name, teacher, or grade - also have ability to search by teacher name - no way to export this information

Must also be logged in to fill out orientation forms - available June/July

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm