

MINUTES OF THE MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL PTC FOR MAY 14, 2012

ATTENDANCE: Devan LaCoursiere, Ken Gilbert, Eric Bryant, Cheryl French, John Byrne

The meeting was called to order at 6:05.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Spring: The good weather and the proximity of summer have stirred up the usual amount of springtime activity at the school. Students have been reminded to wear clothing appropriate for school. Lots of activities are planned and are occurring. The 7th graders went to the zoo in Portland for a field trip Friday, May 11. The 8th graders are scheduled to go to Oak Park in Portland June 5. The 6th graders are planning a local field trip.

Staff Appreciation Lunch: The lunch was held Thursday May 10 in the library. It was a great success and it was greatly appreciated. Heidi Wiest of the PTC coordinated the preparations and scheduling volunteers. She and the volunteers and the PTC were thanked for making the event so successful. (Later in the meeting it was noted that \$250 of PTC funds had been allocated for the event but the actual expenditures were \$183.53.)

Surveys: Parents, staff and students have been given surveys about the school and its programs. There has been a large response from the students, a good response from the staff, and a disappointingly small response so far from parents. The results will be discussed at the May 17 site council meeting.

Wrist Bands – Relay for Life: Starting May 15, students will be fund raising for Relay for Life (American Cancer Society) by selling wrist bands in the school. On June 22, a mixed Memorial – West Albany team will participate in the fund raising event sponsored by Relay for Life.

Staff Changes – Assistant Principal: Kelly Bussard is leaving Memorial to take up the position of Principal at Oak Elementary. A committee is currently reviewing candidates from inside the district for the Assistant Principal position. Four candidates were selected for interviews out of a large pool of applicants. (On May 15, it was announced that Amanda Vetter was selected for the Assistant Principal position.)

Staff Changes – Cuts: There has been no change in the projection that 2.5 certificated FTEs will be cut from the school budget for the 2012-2013 school year.

Schedule for Next Year: The school is still seeking ways to add art and technology electives into the schedule. The projected change will result in a reduction in the number of PE classes. Those who choose the electives will have to undertake (and report) physical activities the way the band members did this year.

It is also likely that the school will eliminate some separate intervention classes for core subjects, assigning those who would have been assigned to such classes to regular classes or special education classes. The change will mean that some teachers will have to simultaneously teach to different levels of abilities but it will help keep the average class size from growing too large.

An effort will be made to keep all teachers in one area of instruction. (This year, some were assigned to two areas such as math and language arts.) The change would enable the affected teachers to participate more fully in the PLC program in their area. Principal Ken Gilbert did emphasize, however, that scheduling often gets changed when actual students are assigned to the projected schedules.

OAKS Testing: This week (the week of May 14) is the last week for the OAKS tests. The preliminary indications are that the school is moving all segments of the student population up in line with the school's stated objectives.

Pig Kissing – Sound System Fund Raising: Unanticipated difficulties in finding a suitably amorous pig have caused the pig-kissing fund-raising event to bog down. It is now thought that arrangements can be made for the event to occur on Fun Day, June 8.

(Later discussion centered on the need to adopt a different fund raising approach next year to raise more money for a new sound system. The current amount (included in the PTC general account) is \$376.08.)

MINUTES

The minutes of the April 9, 2012 meeting were made available to those in attendance. It was **M/S/P** that they be accepted as written.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The financial reports were made available. There was no new income during the previous month. \$183.53 was spent for the staff appreciation lunch. The sum available (not excluding earlier allocations (lunch buddies, two-for-one book sale), new allocations (OBOB) and the set-aside for the sound system) but taking out the staff appreciation lunch expenses is \$2284.77.

NEW BUSINESS

Oregon Battle of the Books: The 2011-2012 Oregon Battle of the Books was a success. The Memorial students advanced through the regional competition to the Awesome 8. The books themselves are now available for general circulation in the library. They are popular. A request was made to secure books for the 2012-2013 Oregon Battle of the Books. The specific request was for 3 copies of 16 titles at an estimated cost of \$7 per book. After discussion, it was **M/S/P** to allocate up to \$336 to secure OBOB books. (A buy one, get another one free book sale is scheduled for May 16-19. An effort is being made to secure as many of the OBOB books at that book sale to reduce the overall cost.)

Early Release: The District office has scheduled early release to create time for the PLC work for Wednesdays for the coming school year. Mondays will be regular school days except for days when there is no school.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The last PTC meeting of the school year is scheduled for the first Monday in June, June 4, at 6p.m. Officers will be selected at that meeting. Parents of current 5th Grade students (incoming 6th grade students) are encouraged to attend.