



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

Meeting Commenced at 9:03 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Attendees

Tom Cardamone, Renee DeVore, Paul Suminski, Christie Theis, Susan Lewin, Lindsay Seaman, Tiffany Wiesner, Cathy Ramsay, Jennifer Karras, Melanie Thornberry, Marra Lochiatto, Lynne Kennedy, Rebecca Oline, Melinda Hill, Mary Manzer, Tiffany Notz, Sushama Krishnaswamy, Martha Avery, Anna McEvoy

Guest Speakers, 6th grade students (Gabby, Rebecca and Julia)

Mrs. Zoul's 6th grade science class was asked to do small group investigations about plants and present their findings to the public.

This group of students presented findings about the benefits that plants provide, how they clean the air, etc.

The group also surveyed teachers and asked (1) Do you have plants in your classroom? (2) If yes, how many plants? and (3) Why is it helpful to have plants in your classroom (decoration, clean air, project, etc.).

Administrator Reports

Tom Cardamone, Principal 5/6 and Michael Kroll, Assistant Principal 5/6

- With spring approaching, talking with students and giving them a refresher about dress code, rules, etc.
- For students transitioning from 4th to 5th:
 - April 29 - will come to DPM to see spring musical
 - May 5 - incoming 5th grade parent orientation at 10am and 7pm in the auditorium
 - May 6 - buddy day for 4th grade
- May 5 and 6 - Growth and Development unit in Health classes. The 5th grade will have a 2-day session and the 6th grade will have a 1-day review session. There will be parent sessions (date/time TBD) so that parents can see the film that their students will see.
- April 30 - Ripple Effect - a culmination of the 5th grade students' hard work



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

on their water project

Renee DeVore, Principal 7/8 and Paul Suminski, Assistant Principal 7/8

- Paul Suminski and his wife are expecting their first child, a daughter due next Wednesday!
- May 6 - Incoming 7th parent orientation, morning and evening sessions
- May 20 during homeroom - incoming 7th student orientation
- 7th grade - Beach Day is June 9
- 8th grade - classes done on June 2
- April 21-25 is 8th grade Holocaust Immersion week
 - survivors will speak from 8:45-9:30am next Tuesday,
 - music and art presentation from 10:15-11am next Mon
- Graduation / Dance info - if you know people who aren't getting e-newsletters, please encourage them to sign up on website
- ReneeDevoreLF - Renee's Twitter account, where she posts links to educational articles and blogs
- The administrators visited a high school in Bloomfield Hills, MI (an offshoot of the main high school, students choose to go there). The purpose of visiting other schools is to help determine how to get DPM on the map, what changes can be made, etc.
 - Next year looking to begin creating a grade 5-8 common schedule - right now, have 3 different schedules (5th, 6th, 7/8). This would be implemented in the 2015-16 school year.
 - How can we bring more flexibility, opportunities for creativity, more personalized learning, student-centered/directed, etc.
 - Considering everything - starting with blank slate and deciding what's best for students. What are some current middle school models that work?

Question/Answer session:

Q - Are there concerns that the teachers union won't approve the changes in schedule?

A - Trying to bring along a consensus, not a vote. We think teachers are ready to move in a new direction. Not set in stone, as education changes we change as well - so just because we come up with a new schedule doesn't mean it will stay the same. It's an evolution.

Renee recommends the book Mindset by Carol Dweck. - fixed mindset, growth mindset

Q - How about the old school teachers. How do we get them to want to change?



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

A - A schedule forces some of that. Need to consider what can we do in terms of professional development. Need to give them the opportunity to learn. Good nucleus of teachers who are invigorated by change, etc., and hope it is infectious.

Q - Do we video tape the Holocaust survivor presentations?

A (Laura Montgomery) - Yes, plan to record again.

Teacher Liaison - Laura Montgomery

Please contact Laura if you are interested and able to serve as a chaperone for the 8th grade field trip to the Holocaust museum next Wednesday and Thursday.

Officer Reports

President - Christie

New Chair for our Board - Care and Concern

Beginning Fall 2014, Stephanie Klein will be taking on the roll of Care and Concern. The primary duty of this person will be to provide support directly from the DPM APT. These duties include:

- Meal services
- Regular get well/sympathy cards
- Acting as a point person to concerned people in the community
- Errand running when necessary
- Special gifts/flowers when appropriate

We will have a budget for this new position.

Calendar

The administration is in the process of discussing a new possible school year schedule. The purpose of the new schedule is to allow high school students to take finals before the holiday break. This would mean starting school two weeks earlier in August, approximately 8/10, and ending the school year two weeks earlier. The calendar is still up for discussion.

Student Council

Starting fall 2014, Student Council representatives will come to our monthly meetings to report on student council business. This will bring a great opportunity for student council members to have speaking experiences and contact with the APT board.

Also, this past month students have been working directly with Michael Simeck on



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

the district vision/values. In addition, they are working on the ABC countdown and Spirit Week.

School Supply Drive

Don't forget the school supply drive takes place May 19-23rd. Collection bins will be located outside of both the 5/6 and 7/8 offices.

Parking Situation

The school is not responsible for the parking situation at the Rec. Center.

Earth Week

Earth week video submissions are due on 4/15. Judging will take place on 4/16 and 4/17.

Teacher Appreciation

-Three 6th grade girls have come up with a potential Teacher Appreciation gift. The idea is to have live green plants in each room.

-We will be purchasing new microwaves for each of the teacher's lounges.

Vice President / Communications - Susan Lewin

Current Month - Activities:

Just a reminder that we are always looking for pictures of our APT in action! Please send me a shot or two of any DPM APT event you are sponsoring or attending and I will put them on our DPM APT website as well as distribute to the District office for possible publication.

Coming Month - Plans:

Ongoing website updates

Secretary - Tiffany Wiesner

February Minutes approved - motion by Sushama Krishnaswamy, seconded by Melinda Hill, and majority approved.

Treasurer - Lindsay Seaman

Please review your committee budget and send in your check requests. If you are not spending your budget, we need to know so that those funds can be used elsewhere. Otherwise, the money ends up in the school activity fund at the end of



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

the school year (we are non-profit) and we lose the ability to direct where they are spent.

Committee Reports

Art Fair – Heather Milligan, Lisa Lekberg, Lexie Knox, Cecily Lynch

No report this month.

Board of Education Liaison – Jennifer Karras, Maria Allen

February 25, 2014

Board of Education Meeting

BOE Meeting:

President's Report by Bill Anderson:

- Mr. Anderson memorialized a former Board of Education member, Mark Mitter, for his many contributions to our district over the years. Mr. Mitter recently passed away and asked that any donation in his honor be made to the Spirit of 67. He served on the board from 2000 – 2009 and was the president from 2008-2009. Among his many contributions to our district, he established the Emotional Wellness committee.

Superintendent's Report by Michael Simeck:

- Mr. Simeck invited the Deer Path Chamber group to perform for the Board of Education. This is an afterschool musical group comprised of 5th – 8th grade students. Mrs. Truding helps to inspire and lead the students but it is primarily student directed. They played an award winning composition for all.
- Mr. Simeck also invited an 8th grade Language Arts class to share their vision of 21st century learning. Their vision focused on the physical aspects of education - redesigned furniture, integrated technology, use of color.

LASIC update:

- Two decisions were presented by Mike Simeck on behalf of the LASIC committee and the administrative staff regarding the future of language immersion and instruction for our district.



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

1. More Language to more kids
 2. Start as young as possible
- Several themes have emerged as the committee's discussions evolved.
 1. Neighborhood schools vs. Immersion schools – Can the district do both well?
 2. Asynchronous programs vs. Uniform programs – Asynchronous programs are difficult to operate and ensure quality while uniform programs allow greater assurance that all receive same instruction
 3. Declining enrollment – Current Kindergarten class has 122 less students than our current 8th grade class did. Can we continue to sustain a program with the current numbers?
 4. Immersion programs are a benefit for life and learning – according to recent parent survey, more language options are requested
 - Next year's recommendations:
 1. Current students will continue as is – no change to immersion program
 2. All language options continue next year
 3. Kindergarten will not offer immersion option – its sole purpose will be to get kids ready for school
 4. Gather more information and consider options with an eye for expanded language programs for all students

Food Service Update, Asst. Superintendent Jennifer Hermes

- The Food Service Committee is comprised of administration, teachers, parents from all schools, school nurse, registered dietician and two board of education members
- Kate Abernathy, a clinical dietician with Northwestern Hospital, provided tremendous help to committee
- After many meetings and much research into best practices, the following recommendations were presented to the board:
 1. Nutritional Guidelines
 - Switch from multi grains to whole grains
 - Perform a comprehensive review of a la carte program with the goal of offering healthier options
 - Reduce added sugar when possible
 1. Less is More – Do it well
 - Theme days will add consistency, ethnic diversity and more kid friendly
 3. Enhance Marketing and Communication



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

- Advertise to parents all changes made over past years (Open House, Parent Nights)
 - Offer opportunity to have lunch with your child occasionally
 - Continue sharing information via newsletters (food tidbits)
 - Make videos of how food service works – especially useful for incoming 5th graders or 1st graders
 - Keep nutritional analysis updated – on website
 - Communicate district's standards
1. Strengthen connection to Nutrition Education
 - Connect further with Wellness classes
 - Continue using “My Plate” philosophy

All recommendations will be shared with Quest Food services.

Lesley Fisher, Board Vice President, Education Committee:

- Shared a new charter for Education Committee
- Adoption of Bridges program for K -4 is going well
- Bridges will be moved into 5th grade next year
- Straddling will begin in 6th grade – example, 6th graders will learn both 6th and 7th grade concepts during 6th grade
- 5th – 8th grade will continue to use Agile Minds but more as a supplement
- Math sequencing for grades 4 – 12 was reviewed emphasizing the importance of straddling
- STEM's standards discussed
- Extensive training would be needed if Science were to be offered IN each classroom as opposed to how it is currently offered which is a PULL OUT
- More partnering with universities was discussed as beneficial

Votes were held on the following:

1. Education Committee Charter – approved
2. Policy Committee Charter - approved
3. Policy 7:180, 6:40 – approved
4. Board Policy First Reading of 7:185, 5:210, 5:290
5. World Language Program – approved
6. Human Resource Items – approved

Upcoming Announcements:

March Board of Education Meeting – March 18, 7:00



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

March 18, 2014

Board of Education Meeting

BOE Meeting:

President's Report by Bill Anderson:

Bill Anderson thanked the many members of the public for attending tonight's meeting as well as for the thoughtful comments they have shared with him and the board. He shared his thoughts regarding the many philosophies of education. Public education has been considered absolutely essential to the success of the United States since the founding of the US. Public education does not follow only one philosophy of education which is both a challenge and an opportunity. It allows school districts the ability to pick the best of thinking and adapt it to their district. This could also be seen as chasing the latest fads. The overall goal must be to produce a productive and engaged relationship between the board and the school professionals so the community will be best served.

Lesley Fisher also chose to share her personal views regarding the Mandarin program and its overall impact on the district. She is fully supportive of the Board's decision to require all students to attend Kindergarten as a traditional student without the Mandarin option.

Superintendent's Report by Michael Simeck:

Mr. Simeck thanked the seven Board trustees for their dedication. A trustee is charged with doing what is best for the whole. They must represent all not some. Right now, the Mandarin Immersion program is considered a "partial immersion" program because the students receive 50% of the targeted language. Mr. Simeck is a fan of this program. He thinks it is an innovative program with good energy. When the program was first proposed, there was overwhelming interest and the decision was made to implement the program right away.

Public Participation:

(8) residents addressed the Board with opposing opinions regarding the Mandarin program.

Board Comments:

Mike Borkowski stated he had received 100s of emails related to the topic.

NSSD Report- Mike Borkowski

IASBO Report- None

Curriculum Committee Report- None

APT Report- Lesley Fisher. Next meeting is 4/9

Spirit Report- Lesley Fisher. Last meeting was 3/11 to review world language and Bridges. 5/8 home tour announcement. Next meeting is 4/8

Financial Reports were given

HR Report- Board went into executive session regarding accepting specific



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

resignations
FOYA Request Report
Public meeting adjourned
Next Meeting will be 4/22

Class of 2014 Activities – Anne Skinner, Martha Avery, Megan Morris, Penelope Boardman

Current Month - Activities:

This month took off! Literally! Our visual gauge for tracking service hours is up. Our little stars have each completed at least two hours of service and the homeroom rockets are flying towards the moon.

We are very excited about the enthusiasm our parent committee has for the “Gatsby Graduation Gala” on Friday 30th May. We have four fabulous sub-committees: invitations, chaperones, food and decorations. The creativity in implementing the children’s committee’s vision is tremendous.

It is going to be a lovely affair.

Coming Month - Plans:

Over the next several weeks, we will place the necessary orders and gather decorations for the event. Invitations will be electronic, with some printed posters for the school, and flyers for those that do not receive e-mail from the school. Check your in-box!

A meeting with the DJ is scheduled with the co-chairs to firm up the package we ordered last August. (This includes lights, green screen photography, screens, etc...).

It is coming together beautifully and we are very grateful to the many parents who have volunteered to participate in this elegant send-off for our graduates.

One thing to add -- The 8th grade class has met and SURPASSED its community service hours goal of 2014 hours!!! The students have done approximately 2500 hours. I will be updating the space display in the 7/8 lobby, which shows their homeroom shuttles shooting to the moon, to reflect that they have reached the moon (2014 hours) sometime on Tues. afternoon.

Issues:

Many more people have paid the graduation fee, but still not all. This is a matter that I hope will not be of issue to the next graduating class.

It is with regret we announce that Megan Morris, who so ably captained the



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

Community Service project since last summer, withdrew as co-chair due to the illness of an extended family member. We three loved working with her, but all accept that family comes first.

At the meeting, Renee reminded the group that if you/your daughter is unsure about the appropriateness of her dress for the dance, send her a picture and she is happy to give it a yay/nay.

Community Liaison – Beth Laufenberg

April 9, 2014 Report to APT Executive Board



COMMUNITY WELLNESS TASK FORCE:

CROYA: Big thanks to CROYA for hosting the District 67 APT Annual Meeting in March!

GORTON:

Rain or shine, It's Dog Parade time! Costumes, of course! Floats welcome!

Day/Date: Saturday, May 10

Time(s): Registration: 9:00 a.m. and Parade 9:30 a.m

Fee: \$5.00 for one dog.

Join us for a celebration of our four-legged family members. We love them!

Awards will be presented for the following categories:

- Best Costume
- Look-like Owner or Vice Versa
- Best in Show

Sign up at www.gortoncenter.org .

MUSIC, FOOD, KIDS' ACTIVITIES, DOG NEWS and MORE! Attending dogs must have proof of vaccination and be on a leash at all times. Owners must clean up after their dog. Bags will be provided.



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

Best of the Fest Film series - The best film shorts for children from the Chicago International Film Festival

Flying Books -- April 13, 4 p.m.

Spy with My Little Eye – April 27, 4 p.m.

Manners, Please -- May 3, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Safety Town Anyone with middle or high schoolers interested in fulfilling a community service requirement or just interested in helping out please sign up to volunteer. (June 10-13, 1:00-4:00).

PASTA – 10th Anniversary – Alice in Wonderland
June 16-July 11, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Performing Arts Summer Theatre Academy is a four-week musical theatre summer camp that seeks to develop young actors in all aspects of the theatre arts.

Performances: Saturday, July 12 and Sunday, July 13 at 10:00AM and 1:00 PM

To register, go to www.gortoncenter.org or call 847-234-6060.

LAKE FOREST RECREATION:

LF/LB LEARNING DISABILITIES ASSOCIATION: The LDA is having their major fundraiser on May 1, 2014. From 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 pm, there is no admission and lots of great shopping! From 7:00 pm until 10:00 pm is Ladies Night Out, \$65 in advance and \$75 at the door. There will be a bistro lunch cafe, shopping, shopping, shopping, and cocktails, heavy appetizers, a raffle for an Hermes scarf along with a really great silent auction. All proceeds benefit the grants program. Tell everyone to mark their calendars!

LAKE FOREST OPEN LANDS:

Play Out: sparked by Chicago Wilderness' "Leave no child inside" initiative. Celebrate Earth Day with Lake Forest Open Lands on April 27th from 1-4 p.m. for a complimentary day of various outdoor activities. Sign our Pledge online (www.LFOLA.org) to show your commitment to getting outdoors. Appropriate for children ages 3-13 – come as a family.

Eco-Summer Camps: spend summer with Lake Forest Open Lands' Eco-Summer Camps for children 4 years old through rising eighth graders. Spots still available and new sessions added!

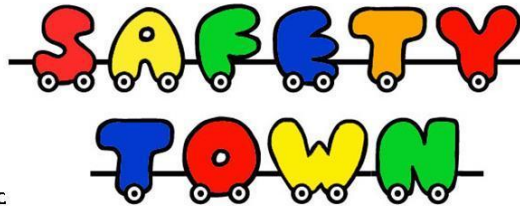


Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

Sign up online (www.LFOLA.org) and bring your friends for fun adventures, explorations, fond memories, and lasting connections.



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014



SAFETY TOWN LOC

Gorton Community Center
400 East Illinois Road, Lake Forest
847-234-6060

SAFETY TOWN TEEN VOLUNTEER FORM

DATES:

TUESDAY-FRIDAY, June 10-13 from 1-4pm

REQUIREMENTS:

You are entering 6th-12th grades this fall.

You are able to work the FULL week of Safety Town.

Orientation for all volunteers will be held at Gorton, Saturday, June 7, 9-12 pm.

Please arrive promptly on the first day at noon.

Name _____ Any allergies _____

Grade/School _____ Circle size shirt XS S M L XL

Address, City, Zip Code _____

Email (you will receive confirmation by email) _____

In case of an emergency, I authorize my child (children) listed above to receive medical treatment at the nearest medical facility if needed.

Please print name _____ Date _____

Signature _____

****As a parent or guardian of this child, I give my permission for his/her participation as a volunteer at Safety Town. I also give permission for group photographs and/or video to be taken and used for Safety Town brochures, Gorton's website and occasional newspaper articles.**

Signature of parent/guardian _____



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

Community Service - Cris Gridley

Upcoming Events : Earth Week Video Contest!

Plans: The middle school will be holding a video competition to promote environmental awareness. Individual students are being asked to submit an original 30-60 second video that encompasses at least one school trait (caring, honesty, integrity, respect, responsibility or teamwork), one scientific fact about the environment and how to become good stewards of the environment (WATER is the theme) by conserving our natural resources.

A judging panel for the submissions has been compiled of several science teacher and administrators. We've been working closely with Laura Montgomery (Tech/Media specialist at DPM) to create an online judging form that will be anonymous. Submissions are due today. Judging will be complete on Friday with the winning submission announced on Monday and video displayed throughout the week on the TV monitors in the front halls.

The winning submissions will be displayed throughout the District at each school and on the District Website during all of Earth Week!

Goals: To create awareness of the importance of conserving natural resources, specifically water.

Concerns: To entice and motivate the children, the incentive needs to be a bit greater (i.e. gift card to environmental/outdoor shop).

Culture Fair Grade 5 – Kristin O'Neill, Sarah Marshall

No report this month.

Christie announced that she is looking for two people to serve on this committee next year. If you know anyone who is interested or who would enjoy this role, please contact Christie.

Culture Fair Grade 6 – Mari Simeck, Tiffany Notz, Mary Manzer

The 6th grade Asian Culture Fair will be held this Wednesday, April 16.

The kids will sample food from a local Asian restaurant, Bangkok Tokyo, enjoy a martial arts presentation and hear stories from Cambodia among several other



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

activities they will rotate through by team during the day.

We will provide a recap of our fair and are confident it will run smoothly as we have fabulous volunteers lined up to help!

Directory / Membership – Kate Bryant, Michelle Curry

No report this month.

Effort – Jolene Watkins, Micaiah Robinson

No report this month.

Emotional Wellness – Cindy Anderson, Micaiah Robinson

No report this month.

Fifth Grade Welcome – Mary Brennan, Theresa Speed

No report this month.

Fine Arts – Amy Kelly, Kristin Fitzgerald

No report this month.

Food Service – Melinda Hill

Brief Summary of Current Month – Activities:

National Nutrition Month was last month. A HUGE success for the three elementary schools with the super seasoners theme. Lots of students excited and willing to try new things. At DPM 5th/6th side went well with the “have this, not that” theme. 7th/8th side however was a disaster. Destroyed material on tables and had no interest in theme.

We did have one glitch at the beginning of that month that needed to be resolved. Even though the Principals were aware of the food samplings taking place at the school during the lunch hour, the school nurses were not aware of it. Need to make note next year that school nurses are informed first and foremost if a sampling was to take place again, so they can help identify the students that might have an allergy. Also moving forward we need to make sure that no field trips are scheduled on a



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

day we are serving. Finally, Anne and Quest Food need to have staggered dates. Serving all three schools on a given day was a bit overwhelming. With that said, a big round of applause for Anne and Quest Food for doing such a fantastic job of helping us put this together.

Brief Summary of Coming Month - Plans:

Just concluded our final meeting for the year. One more bulletin board to put together at schools. Theme is Smart Snacks/Water for Hydration. Will stay up through summer

LFHS Liaison – Melanie Thornberry

Current Month - Activities:

Lake Forest High School met on Wednesday, April 9th at 9:00 am at the East Campus Room 113

The 4th Annual “Planting a Foundation for Education” Foundation Luncheon and Silent Auction will be held tomorrow, Wednesday, April 16th from 11:00-2:00 at the Onwentsia Club.

LFHS Prom (GATSBY Theme) Presented by the LFHS Junior Class and the Association of Parents & Teachers (APT) will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2014 at the Marriott Chicago Magnificent Mile Grand Ballroom.

LFHS 2014 Graduation will be held on Saturday, June 7th.

Current Month - Activities:

Principal Barry Rogers and Director of Curriculum and Instruction Giovanni Benincasa

- 1. Barry discussed the 21st Classroom initiative. He and Giovanni have been working with the board and leadership team. They will be presenting to the Board of Education in April.**
- 2. Leading Edge Learning is what they are calling the 21st Century Initiative. The big question driving this initiative is: How do we prepare students for jobs, which haven't even been created?**
3. With all the technology distracting students, how can we keep students engaged in the classroom?
- 4. The initiative will propose using Google apps in the classroom. There are over 1 million apps currently available on Google apps many of which are**



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

dedicated to education. Students like using these apps and unbelievable content is available.

5. Google apps are useable on many different devices, including cell phones.
6. **The Chrome “Yoga” Device being introduced in June 2014 is the current recommendation for LFHS.**
7. Similar to home, at school “screens” are compelling to students. When you put devices in the classroom everyone is in motion and engaged, instead of only the teacher being in motion. With devices in the classroom, focus moves from teacher instruction to creating more engaging opportunities to learn.
8. Students want choices on how they can show they have learned. Some students don’t perform well on tests. With devices in the classroom, the teacher can evaluate a student’s progress on a more continual basis.
9. With devices in the classroom teachers will be able to more easily and effectively create different structures for different learners.
10. **The four C’s of 21st Century Learning are Critical thinking, Communication, Collaboration, and Creativity.**
11. With the advancement of the web, information is almost instantaneously accessible so students need to learn how to handle that information.
12. Collaborative tools enable students to manage the flow of information. Makes the process of learning visible.
13. An example of the tools available is the use of Google glass to aid in capturing labs in process.
14. **Districts 65 and 67 have had 1:1 initiatives for 10 years. At the high school, Chrome books are currently being piloted. For the 2014-2015 school year, all freshmen will be use a Chrome book. Starting with the 2015-2016 school year, there will be a whole school rollout of Chrome books**
15. A large piece of the success of this initiative is supporting teachers and the implementation. Parts of this support will be using the four snow days to have training for the teachers. Teachers will have opportunity for peer observation, instructional coaching, conferences, summer institutes, mentors, small groups presentations, and classroom support. Some training has already begun.
16. Chrome books are fast. They are easy to share, safe and secure.
17. **The Board is still discussing the funding of the initiative. Hopefully, the cost will be less than \$100 per year for each student. The aggregate dollars spent on textbooks will decline long term.**
18. By using Chrome books, which cost less than other computers, they can be brought up to date more easily. The web-based applications are constantly being updated automatically.
19. Ultimately, the device used isn’t as important as the applications on the web.



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

Google apps are very friendly for using with all devices.

20. Other devices will continue to be purchased for specific needs such as in the CAD lab.

21. **At book buy, there will be an orientation for the Chrome books. There will also be parent forums. District 65 will also be going over some transition training for their students who have been using Apple computers.**

22. There will be filters and monitoring of the devices.

23. **Barry next went over a draft calendar being considered for the 2015-2016 school year. The proposed start date is August 10. There would be one week off at Thanksgiving and first semester exams would be before Winter Break. School would end on May 20.**

24. Barry asked for thoughts from the APT about the schedule. One comment was on how this will affect fall sports that have two days practices before school starts. The first three months have almost no break which could be difficult on the students. Barry will continue to work with the stakeholders to modify this draft and it will be presented to the Board in the near future. Barry is not sure how the other districts will alter their schedules, but Dist. 115 will work with the other Districts and organizations such as the Recreation Center once the calendar has been finalized.

New Families – LeaAnne LaVanway, Janita Reehl

No report this month.

Parent Awareness – Jorie Alutto, Theresa Speed

Brief Summary of Current Month – Activities:

JumpStart on 5th Grade

Tuesday, May 13th

9:30-11 a.m.

The Cube at DPM

A panel of seasoned middle school parents will answer questions about their experiences on the social transition into 5th grade. Topics range from snow pants to cell phones, from play dates to uptown outings. Walk out feeling empowered so you can prepare your students for the exciting years ahead at DPM!

Digital Safety

The Parent Awareness team submitted a Digital Safety Proposal to the



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

administration to propose a partnership between the APT and schools to review/enhance the curriculum for students and education for parents about student's use of technology.

Next steps include a formalization of the curriculum plan and use of the Friday Flyer newsletters to provide parents with information.

You may have seen the post below in the 3/14/14 Friday Flyer email:

DIGITAL SAFETY - Now what are they doing?

Are you wondering about current apps, how to talk to your kids about safe technology use - or the consequences for technology misuse?

The District 67 Executive APT Parent Awareness Committee, together with our school community, has created a Technology Dangers & Warnings webpage about technology used by our students.

This webpage will be continuously updated, but is not inclusive of all technology applications or uses. Please help us stay current by emailing us using the "Contact Us" tab.

<http://lfdist67apt.weebly.com/parent-awareness.html>

Here's the plan from Judi Epcke on the District's plans for Digital Safety ed. Our plan moving forward is as follows:

May/Summer 2014: Sharing information and resources that may be helpful to parents as summer approaches: What should a child do when xxx happens? Etc. We will offer information on the Technology FYI online communication discussed at our face-to-face meeting throughout the summer as it pertains to our purpose to inform parents about digital safety. Both Anne and I endeavor to bring this resource to parents prior to the end of this school year. It will be an ongoing communication with posts more or less frequent depending upon circumstances, events, and suitability of information.

Summer 2014: A refresh of our current digital citizenship practices/curriculum to be revised this summer: What are the learning targets? What will be covered at which grade levels? This information will be posted on the district website and within the Technology FYI online communication.

August 2014 - June 2015: Transparency throughout the school year (and beyond) about the digital citizenship curriculum: what is taught, how it is embedded into the curriculum, parent information, etc. This will occur through the Technology FYI online communication and other avenues as appropriate, like Friday Flyers.



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

Fall 2014: A parent information meeting will be held, including a panel with district staff, outside “experts”, and perhaps others as we see appropriate. At this meeting I will share information regarding the district’s digital citizenship program. We intend to schedule this event once all school curriculum nights have occurred. We will consult all of you for your thoughts on the best day/time.

Hot Parenting Topics

Parent Awareness reps will continue to ask for “Hot Parenting Topics” at school APT meetings. Examples of Hot Parenting Topics could include homework help, balancing it all, media use, etc.

Are there any ‘Hot Parenting Topics’ that you would like us to bring forward today? (Solicit ideas now)

If you think of other ideas, please contact Melinda or Heather at any time. Thanks!

Community Events

What’s Next for Me? Changing Times, Changing Bodies

Saturday, May 31, June 28 and Aug 9 from 9 a.m. – noon

Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital

Taught by a nurse for Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital, this class will provide accurate and concise information and assist parents in guiding their daughter through puberty and beyond. It will explore the physical, emotional, physiological and social aspects of what's normal and how to adjust to these variances in their lives.

This class is for pre-adolescent girls (9 to 12 years of age) and their mother or adult support person. Registration is required. Register at lfh.org. The fee is \$30 per couple and includes breakfast.

Room Parent Coordinators – Michelle Curry (5), Jan MacDougal (6), Maria Allen (7), Catherine Yehle (8)

No report this month.

School Supplies – Kathy Ivinjack 7/8, Tiffany Wiesner 5/6

Brief Summary of Current Month – Activities:

Have been working with School-Pak to finalize school supply lists for the upcoming school year. Expect to sign-off on lists this week and start publicizing online ordering through Friday Flyers districtwide later this month.



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

Social – Sushama Krishnaswamy, Marra Lochiatto, Germaine Arnson, Rebecca Oline, Lynne Kennedy, Julie Slobodnik

Current Month - Activities:

The Social Committee hosted a pizza luncheon for all DPM teachers/staff on Thursday, February 27th at 11:35am in the Haskins Center. Pizza was ordered from Lou Malnati's. Caesar salad was donated from Fresh Market. Baked goods were generously provided by parent volunteers.

Coming Month - Plans:

Old/Board New Board Brunch in May. Date and location TBD.

Spiritwear – Liz Olsen

I've been asked to sell DPM spirit wear at the parent meeting May 13th of rising 5th graders; it's called Jump Start. It'll be a cash sale of what we have left over from the Holiday sale. Having a DPM t-shirt will be a nice way for those students to anticipate 5th grade in a new school, and will show their school pride in those first few months before the larger spirit wear sale in the Fall.

Spirit of 67 Specialist – Lynne Kennedy, Natalie Torcolese

Current Month - Activities:

Grants:

April 9th was Grant Day! Hopefully you heard about it from your kids. Several members of the Spirit Board went to the 4 buildings last Wednesday bearing balloons and award certificates for the lucky grant recipients. Lake Forest TV was there to film it all so look for the 2 minute clip on the local access channel. There is also a clip that Laura Montgomery made that is on the district website.

There were 41 grants awarded for more than \$198,000. DPM received some phenomenal grants – rock climbing wall, digital media cameras, helmet cams, student group room furniture, equipping the Haskins Center so they have their "own cube," 16 iMac computers going into the STEM classrooms, the visiting author program, portable multi-media carts, as well as several more grants.

Membership numbers:

We are so close to 50% district-wide family participation. In January each building



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

needed 20 families to reach that goal. DPM got 10 of their 20!! Yea!! Thank you to our building principals for really plugging the Spirit in their Friday flyer columns; it was a huge help. Please remember there is no minimum dollar required. While money is always good, when we go to corporations and ask them for funding, the first question they ask is "What's your family participation rate?" If our own families don't believe in our cause, they are certainly not going to donate. I have some donation forms I'll pass around.

Coming Month - Plans:

Home Tour:

Home Tour is May 8th. You should have received your invitation by now. Tickets are \$57 for donors if purchased before 5:00 p.m. May 1st, \$67 after that date or at the door. Tickets for non-members are \$10 more. The luncheon will once again be held at the Lake Forest Club and tickets are \$30 each. We have some fabulous homes; in fact, we actually needed 20 more house volunteers to man all the homes this year. The DPM house is in pretty good shape but we still need 2 volunteers for the second shift and 1 volunteer for the 3rd shift. Thank you to everyone who has already volunteered to help out that day.

STEM - Jenny Zinser

No report this month.

Student Council 5/6 - Camille Prindle, Natalie Torcolese

No report this month.

Student Council 7/8 - Sandy Steiner

Current Month - Activities:

- Met with Mr. Simeck to give ideas about vision/values
- Met with their principal to take on a new challenge. Their task is to focus on School Spirit
- Hosted "Winter Blues Week" with spirit dress, ice cream sales, etc
- Hosted 5th annual student/staff volleyball game

Coming Month - Plans:

-Advisory Culminating Activity. "Open house style" advisory presentations will be held in mid-May for the entire West side



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

-ABC Countdown - spirit dress and special days during the month of May to
countdown the school year and foster school spirit

Teacher Appreciation – Cecily Lynch

No report this month.

Visiting Author – Anna McEvoy, Carolann Stickler

Current Month - Activities:

Four presentations by Visiting Author Tim Green took place at DPM on Thursday,
April 10th (7th and 8th grade) and Friday, April 11th (5th and 6th grade).

Tim Green is a former NFL player and author of many bestselling books for young
readers including Unstoppable, Football Hero, Perfect Season and his more recent
book New Kid.

Tim Green has sold over a million copies and has toured the country speaking at
over 700 schools. He uses all the money he makes from speaking at schools to buy
and donate books to schools, libraries and students who can't afford them.

Tim read the first chapter of his new novel and talked about the importance of hard
work and integrity. He also did a book signing session.

Volunteer Coordinator – Dawn Wheldon

No report this month.

Old/New Business

Lynne Kennedy announced that she and Teri Albus will co-chair next year's Grotto
Dance at Gorton. The dance will be on 9/26 or 9/27, depending upon the night your
child chooses to attend. Lynne is also looking for students to serve on the Gorton
board for these middle school-aged student events. It is a 3 year term, the students
attend meetings with their parent, and they will help plan and decorate for the
Grotto Dance, Movie Night, and Children's Holiday Shop.

Respectfully Submitted,



Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 4/15/2014

Tiffany Wiesner