

## Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 2/21/17

Meeting Commenced at 9:06 a.m.  
Meeting Adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

### Attendees

Kim Carden, Julie Schwan, Sushama Krishnaswamy, Tish Houston, Judi Olenick, Mary Kay Hanlon, Alyssa Sinclair, Diana Webb, Heather Richmond, Christine Goshgarian, Teri Albus, Amy Lamberti, Marty VenderVelde, Pam Myers, Carolyn DeLuca, Kim Robb, Mycah Czerniejewski, Kristin Lee, Kimberly Carris, Eileen Swartout, Renee Devore, Mike Field, Tom Cardamone, Michael Kroll, Jennifer Karras, Anna McEvoy

### President – Call to Order

### Guest Speakers –

Several LFHS seniors spoke about their high school experience. See you tube video for more.

<https://youtu.be/HRRCJGmUrok>

### Administrator Reports

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

- ELO started last week for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. It was an all day event with 43 sessions offered to the students. Lots of positive feedback from students and a post survey indicated that 86% of students would like to do ELO again. Plan for an ELO day prior to spring break and Memorial Day.
- Tom thanked the parents for their help with the Art Fair. There is an Open House Wednesday, 2/22 at 5-7pm.
- Elizabeth Lombardo will present “Dealing with a Moody Child” in the Cube on 2/22 at 9:30am
- Brainstormers will present Shrek in the auditorium at 7pm March 16 and 17
- Parent Teacher conferences are March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Parents getting a letter on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> on how to sign up.
- The SLS had a successful halfway party on 2/3

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### **Renee DeVore, Principal 7/8 and Mike Field, Assistant Principal 7/8**

- Second semester report cards are coming home Feb 24<sup>th</sup>
- Renee thanked the Staff Appreciation APT committee for the Valentine's treats
- PARCC testing will be April 5-7 and 10-12
- The Science Dept. is doing some great projects. 7<sup>th</sup> grade: real estate. 8<sup>th</sup> grade: genetics.
- Services for Mr. Scott Bliler will be on Feb 25<sup>th</sup> at the Chapel in Libertyville
- The data for looping is in and it is positive. 7<sup>th</sup> grade will continue to loop next year, but there may be in a shift with some teachers.
- Parent Teacher conferences will take place March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> in the classrooms, not the gym. Same process to sign up as the east side. Renee and Mike encouraged 7/8<sup>th</sup> students to attend with their parents.

### **Teacher Liaison - Amy Lamberti**

- Any sports pictures would be appreciated for the yearbook. Last submission date is March 13. Please share with Mr or Mrs Rahman via email. Thank you!
- We'll be offering the Paris trip in 2018 now, June 16, 2018, so people can stay tuned for an upcoming parent meeting with lots of time to start saving for and planning for this trip next summer 2018 (instead of originally planned 2017).
- A heartfelt THANK YOU for all the special treat days. It's nice that APT "treats" us once a month. Feeling appreciated through food is always welcome!

## **Officer Reports**

### **President - Jennifer Karras**

The final vote for DPM's new APT president will be at the March 8<sup>th</sup> district meeting.

### **Vice President / Communications - Anna McEvoy**

No report this month.

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**Secretary – Kim Carden**

Approval of the January minutes – first motion by Heather Richmond, second motion by Teri Albus; all approved.

**Treasurer – Lindsay Seaman**

No report this month.

**Programs – Julie Schwan**

No report this month.

### **Committee Reports**

**Art Fair – Mary Kay Hanlon, Danielle Sullivan, Tara Eggers, Aida Gust**

Art Fair has been very successful! Participation numbers for this year’s event:

5th grade	18 students	26 entries
6th grade	15 students	32 entries
total 5/6	33 students	58 entries east side
7th grade	14 students	26 entries
8th grade	11 students	24 entries
total 7/8	25 students	50 entries west side
Total	58 students	108 total entries

The number of students participating was consistent with last year’s event, with slightly fewer art pieces submitted on the 7/8 side. Using the Google form worked very well to capture the faculty/student votes in each category and for Best in Show. We had 324 votes on the 5/6 side and 300 votes on the 7/8 side.

**Next Steps**

Art will be displayed through Art Fair Open House on Wednesday, February 22 from 5-7 p.m. in the Cube and Haskins Center (to coincide with Band and Choir concerts that evening).

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Students will pick up art pieces during homeroom on Friday, February 24. We will work with Patti Fleser and Katie Schiyer to send out reminders to the students via Edmodo.

Best in Show winners' and Best in Show Honorable Mention winners' artwork will be included in the Deer Path Art League Emerging Artists show. Students will be notified of their selection via email. Committee will coordinate transport of the art pieces to The Gallery (formerly Re-Invent Gallery) by March 5th for display during the event March 11-25. Committee will coordinate return of students' artwork back at DPM after that date.

Finally, we will summarize feedback from participants and staff.

### **Board of Education Liaison – Teri Albus, Christine Goshgarian Cherokee**

*No questions submitted.*

### **Everett**

#### **APT Liaison Meeting**

*February 9, 2017*

How did the “final 4” school board candidate get access to email addresses?

**The district did receive inquiries asking if we, or the APT, release parent emails to external organization. The district takes student and family confidentiality very seriously and we do not release any private information to any outside organization.**

### **Sheridan**

We all know the new reality is test scores unfortunately do drive a lot of decisions about curriculum in any district. What do Lake Forest elementary school scores tell

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you and what areas are you focusing on based on our district test results?

**We are continuing to work to align our curriculum. This effort is embedded in our work with Bridges and the Connected Math Project (CMP) as well as our Reading and Writing Workshop implementation. The test scores support our current efforts. They tell us we need to continue our direction regarding our ELA curriculum and math – and we are currently doing just that. We aren't making any major adjustments to our current focus because of the scores. The adjustments we have made in the**

**past two years need time to realize their full benefit. We are also unpacking standards on a deeper level in both ELA and Math in order to ensure we are continually focusing on the right areas. We have made significant shifts to our curriculum in the past 2 years, which are already favorably impacting this data.**

How do Lake Forest elementary schools rank in reading and math among neighboring communities like [Highland Park](#), Libertyville, Vernon Hills, and Winnetka?

**Currently, we outperformed Highland Park, Hawthorn and Northbrook 28 in both ELA and Math. As noted above, both reading and math are responding favorably to the recent changes in programming. We will continue to implement our efforts and monitor the impact of our modifications.**

With the changes in language (for the past two years post immersion change) what strengths and weaknesses are you seeing with the elementary language program?

**Focus is slightly more targeted with only offering one language in addition to Mandarin. Students are still selecting from a variety of language options during their 5<sup>th</sup> grade selection, which allows us to continue to support 4 languages in the district. This allows us to build a curriculum focused on proficiency and aligned to best practice for teaching language. A challenge we face is that this change is still new. Once students have had Spanish instruction for a series of years, we will**

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**comprehensively evaluate how that instruction is impacting students' language performance as they enter 5<sup>th</sup> grade.**

Where can we find more information on the science curriculum per grade and science benchmarks since they no longer meet as a science class? Interdisciplinary is a great buzzword, but how do we know the kids are really getting the science (part of "STEM" focus) that they need?

**All students attend science pullouts. What has been added is that science is now integrated into classroom instruction for some units so that it is a deeper and more well rounded experience and not taught in isolation. All units K-8 have been built or are being built with an inquiry-based – student-driven— model in mind and are aligned to Next Generation Science Standards.**

Next Generation Science Standards are linked on our D67 Curriculum page on the website <http://www.lakeforestschoools.org/district-departments/curriculum/lf67-curriculum/index.aspx?wp359302943-slide=5>.

**K-4 Parents received curriculum handouts at Curriculum Night in the fall. All content areas were listed on the handouts.**

### **DPM**

Now that block scheduling is in place where is the district with finals before winter break?

**Last year, the high school began to engage in conversations regarding holding exams after winter break. The feedback was extremely helpful. At that time, they made a decision to focus on the implementation of the new school day and temporarily place the conversations on hold. The high school will continue to investigate this change and involve all stakeholders in the discussions when they reengage.**

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How is it decided when to have the official start of winter break? Many parents have been discussing it and most are in agreement that they would prefer to not release the kids 10 days before Christmas, but have more time after the holidays with their kids. They noticed that St Mary's didn't get out until the Wed or Thursday before Christmas, and some of the parents have students in both schools, which made it very inconvenient. Who decides this, what are the criteria and do the parents have any say?

**The D67 calendar committee, comprised of teachers, staff and administration, drafts the calendar after they consider all variables, days required by the state, holidays, in-services, etc. The committee also tries to keep as many weeks as they can whole (5 days) to increase student attendance and support instruction. They also cross reference with LFHS and other area schools to attempt to coordinate holidays for families that have children in multiple schools. The Board of Education reviews and approves the calendar.**

### **Care and Concern – Kim Robb, Kim Gambit**

No report this month.

### **Class of 2017 Activities – Diana Webb, Christine Goshgarian, Teri Albus, Alana Hender**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation Dance – Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 9:30

- Neon Lights is the dance theme
- Meeting with parent volunteers is Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1:00 at West Campus for dance planning

Class Gift – is still in process – hope to finalize and announcement next month

Graduation Program – Many thanks to Abbott who has once again agreed to design and print the Graduation Program.

Class Photograph – we are in the process of contacting and organizing a date later this spring for the Class of 2017 class photo.

Community Service hours - the poster in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade hallway has been updated.

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We are at 78.5% of our total pledged community service hours of 2,017.

### **Community Service - Heather Richmond, Christiana Walsh**

No report this month.

### **CROYA - Laura Whisler**

No report this month.

### **Culture Fair Grade 5 - Cynthia McCullough, Heather Strong**

No report this month.

### **Culture Fair Grade 6 - Kristin O'Neil, Umang Singh**

No report this month.

### **Directory / Membership - Judi Olenick**

No report this month.

### **Emotional Wellness - Micaiah Robinson, Umang Singh, Elizabeth Lombardo, Alyssa Sinclair, Heather Clements**

Emotional Wellness - Family Game Night Recap

3rd Annual Game Night was a huge success. - Thank the Spirit of 67 for all of their support this year in our event. Without their support we would not have been able to supply a Summer Reading Bag for each student. With over 275 people attending Family Game Night we raised over \$3500 and we had over 100 books donated. With this generous donation we will have students from DPM go to Little Fort Elementary School in Waukegan to give them a Summer Reading Kickoff! This will involve all 525 students from Little Fort getting a bag, 2-3 books, a journal and pen and a water bottle! The DPM students will go into the classrooms with a "Peer Pep Talk" explaining the joy and benefits of summer reading.

### *Brief Summary of Coming Month - Plans:*

EW polled our parent community using a Google Form, to gather a sense of what EW topics would be of interest to them, along with what days and times are most convenient. Using that information, we have coordinated our first Emotional



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Wellness & Parent Awareness Speaker Series event featuring our very own, Dr. Elizabeth Lombardo, February 22, 2017, 9:30-11:00 am in the Cube at DPM. The title of the presentation is "Dealing With a Moody Child".

Help us promote the upcoming EWC & PA Speaker Series at your respective buildings.

An event flier will also be coming out in Friday Flyers, posted on school facebook pages, D-67 E-Pulse and a email blast invite to parents. We are really excited about this event!

### **Fifth Grade Welcome - Tish Houston, Heather Strong**

No report this month.

### **Fine Arts - Mike Borkowski**

No report this month.

### **Food Service - Irene Okada**

No report this month.

### **LFHS Liaison - Lynne Kennedy, Kim Campbell, Lynn Bertram**

No report this month.

### **New Families - Lynn Lawler, Marty Vander Velde, Jennifer Lazarus**

No report this month.

### **Parent Awareness - Umang Singh, Alyssa Sinclair**

Parent Awareness - We meet with our committee Feb 7th to discuss and plan for Jump Start to 5th Grade in May. We are finalizing the parent panel.

### **Parent Teacher Liaison - Katie Frekko, Beth Laufenberg**

No report this month.

### **Room Parent Coordinators - Tish Houston (5), Lydia Conopeotis (6), Sushama Krishnaswamy (7), Judi Olenick (8)**

No report this month.

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### **School Supplies – TBD 5/6, Jennifer Karras 7/8**

No report this month.

### **Spiritwear – Liz Olsen**

No report this month.

### **Spirit of 67 Liaison – Amy Kelly**

The Spirit of 67 has secured 4 homes for this year's Home Tour. Thank you for sharing your beautiful homes with us!!! Also, please be sure to volunteer for a Home Tour shift and encourage others to do the same.

Have a 4<sup>th</sup> grader, 8<sup>th</sup> grader or business? Why not buy a Congratulations Page or an advertisement in the Home Tour ad book. You can visit our website or contact Lydia Conopeotis.

To those of you who have submitted grants, the grant committee is busy reviewing all the requests! We are excited to announce that some of the schools have used the Dorothy Chantler Fund.

If you haven't become a donor yet, please do so to help support our schools. You can find our link on the school webpage or go to <http://www.spiritof67foundation.org>.

Thank you for your support!!!

### **Staff Appreciation – Lynne Kennedy, Sushama Krishnaswamy, Sophia Koliatsis, Lisa Lamb, Sarah Long, Maureen Fitzgerald, Kristen Lee, Laura Adams, Anna Theodore, Julie Benda Helms**

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> - simple Valentine's event for DPME and DPMW – Dunkin Donuts and Popcorn.

Gearing up for conference dinner on March 9<sup>th</sup>, which will be Lou Malnati's served in Haskins.

Planning meeting on February 23<sup>rd</sup> for Teacher Appreciation week theme and activities.

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**Student Leadership & Spirit 5/6 – Micaiah Robinson, Wendy Flynn**

No report this month.

**Student Leadership & Spirit 7/8 – Amy Gray, Kimberly Carris**

No report this month.