**PTO Meeting**

**April 12, 2023**

Superintendent Kenji Matsudo opened the mtg.

* + The biggest news is the building project. The construction crew says they are still on target. There are lots of items in motion. They have been able to make up ground with the plumbing and HVAC. 12 classrooms are part of the new addition--- Mr. Flanagan has organized who those are. The library will be a band room for 5th grade band. The now-music room will be a conference room and space for gifted programs.
  + We will be welcoming the 4th graders that are about to be 5th graders into that new space.
  + Mr. Flanagan update: he hurt his knee right before spring break. He will be back soon. Chandley Bacher has been great with stepping in.
  + The Madeira City School Board heard a feasibility study for the HS. The plan is to see where the needs are, and we will make adjustments as needed. That review must be done years ahead of the need, so now is the time. HS gym has no air conditioning, but that is coming soon. The gym is getting painted as well.
  + Mr. Matsudo promoted the Athletics Boosters. The Athletics Booster group is going to fund the back gym floor, which will cost about $80,000.
  + COVID impact study: The youngest learners were impacted the most.
  + Chandley Bacher has been spearheading a summer reading program. It is coordinated with the Swim Club so as not to disturb very popular swim practices, all set up at the middle school.
  + Extra Curricular survey/study, mainly grades 6-12. We already have Athletics or bands. But what else could we offer?
  + We have 122 seniors graduating this year. May 27th is graduation. Of the 122 students, 66 of them have a GPA of 4.0 or higher.
  + Volunteers: Chuck Jonas has been amazing as a grandparent. He is up at the school all the time, making a huge impact.
  + Senior Citizen Coffee: Kenji met today with Madeira senior citizens. Two high school students spoke to the citizens and shared stories of growing up in Madeira.

Next we heard from MES Assistant Principal, Ms. Chandley Bacher:

* + - She stated that she and the staff are grateful for the PTO!
    - The 4th grade tshirt contest is underway! The teachers are excited.
    - Read the Rainbow: The students took the reading competition seriously.
    - HS students serve as visitors to some of the elementary school students. That program is about to wrap up for the year.
    - Standardized testing is happening in full force in April.
    - Seven teachers have signed on to work with over 60 students in the summer reading program.
    - Got Art is coming up in May.
    - Field Day is coming up, although Mr. Flanagan may not be on the roof throwing water balloons this year.
    - High schoolers started a STEM club for 4th grade.

Maria Schwaller, President of the MES PTO spoke next.

She introduced Katie Feldman, who is the head of the Got Art Committee. Got Art week is the May 15-19. Guest artists come in and students learn about notable artists from throughout history. **They need several volunteers**. If you want to volunteer, there is a link in the newsletters that are going out from the school. They will not have a lead teacher for that portion of Got Art. This year the students will watch a video to get them started. This year’s activities feel less complicated.

Next we heard from Amy Suit, MES PTO Treasurer.

* + The Spring Changing Hands Sale was a huge success.
  + April and May are big months for fund expenditures. So, despite a nice balance in the Treasury, there is about to be a lot less available money from the PTO coffers.

Maria Schwaller spoke again about recent events:

* February had teacher conference meals.
  + March was the Changing Hands Sale. We welcomed the fifth grade teachers with totes, plants, snacks, etc. The staff of MES wrote nice notes for the incoming 5th grade teachers.
  + Popsicles were offered for Reading the Rainbow. March is national reading month.
  + STEM Day was a big hit. COSI doesn’t come to schools any more. We were able to get the Cincy Museum Center to come. They put on exhibits for hands-on learning.

Upcoming events:

* Teacher Appreciation Week is the first week of May; Walk to School day is Wednesday, May 3rd; Got Art Week is May 15-19.
* Openings for PTO (PLEASE VOLUNTEER!): PTO Board Secretary; Committee heads: Veggie Tasting Tuesday sign-up coordinator, Teacher Meal Coordinator, Lunch Buddy Club coordinator.
* PTO sent out a survey a few weeks ago regarding extra curricular activities. Thank you to parents that filled that out.
* Beginning Buddies: New student introduction program in August. There will be a possibility to sign up distributed soon.
* School supply ordering: You have until July to order. This is very convenient way to order your student’s school supplies. Someone else organizes the items and delivers them directly to your student’s classroom. This is also a fundraising opportunity for PTO.
* PTO will also be funding a re-fresh of the MES teacher’s lounge.