

# Sauk Trail PTA Meeting 5/12/15

6:30pm, Conference Room

- Chris Dahlk, Principal's Update
  - Update on SAGE and staffing for 2015-2016
    - Updated bill renews SAGE for one year
      - This means no staff loss next year
    - SAGE will be renamed Achievement Gap Reduction Program
      - New application is being submitted, good for the next five years
      - Still based on free and reduced meals, but no 50% rule
      - Will continue to maintain smaller class sizes, but will also cover instructional coaching and tutoring.
  
- Committee Updates
  - Book Fair - Tara/Sarah/Cathy
    - Currently up and running in the LMC
    - Still an open shift
  - Tri 4-Schools -- Tina & Sarah
    - On August 22nd in Middleton
    - Advertising is starting, flyers and bulletin board
    - A practice course will be setup in August before the event
  - Teacher Appreciation Week - Shelly
    - Lots of new activities this year, not just food
    - Students did morning announcements
    - Students did thank you cards, didn't seem like many were made?
    - 59 pairs of green and grey earrings were given to staff, 5 bracelets for male staff
    - 68 gift cards were given to staff, each staff picked a closed envelop
    - Donuts, fruit, coffee and juice on Tuesday
    - Salad bar on Thursday
    - A link to a video was shared on Friday. The 5 minute video contains of pictures of students holding white board notes, photos taken at the dance
    - Happy hour at Club Tavern on Friday after school
    - Only \$328.43 was spent on all of the week's activities
  - Box Tops - Kristen
    - Big bag of box tops still needs to be counted to award prizes
    - Various PTA members took them home to help with counting
  - Website and Newsletter
    - A reminder that chairs need to provide submissions earlier
    - Can we get things translated into Spanish?
      - Need 2 weeks
      - A slimmed down version

- More blog posts on the website
    - Question about how much traffic the website gets, no one has the answer
    - Advertise site more, let people know it is a resource for all parents not just PTA
  - How to encourage PTA membership?
    - Send postcards before school starts?
    - Hand out packets at orientation
    - Table at back to school night at the end of August
    - Volunteer Coordinator?
    - Classroom parents
    - Classroom Connections Chair
    - Create a new email list for more general communication
  - Taste bank account
    - What to do with it?
    - Merge the money into the general account?
    - Earmark it for something special?
  - Move to a PTO instead of PTA
    - We are the only school in the district that has a PTA, all the others are PTOs
    - A great deal of work is involved
      - A new bank account has to be created
      - Must apply for a new tax ID & non-profit status
    - If anyone has experience with applying for a tax ID and/or non-profit status, help would be appreciated!
- Board Updates
  - Staff and Field Trip funding update - Amber
    - Trying to reset and ensure equality across grades, by applying guidelines
    - PTA will fund a trip to Overture for every grade, paying for tickets and transportation
    - Every grade will get transportation covered for another field trip of their choice
    - Staff should access other funding sources for grade and/or classroom-specific requests
    - Last year PTA voted to increase staff reimbursements from \$75 to \$100 - we will maintain that level
- New Business - Looking Forward to 2015/2016
  - Changes to Committee Positions
    - Eliminate Speaker Series
    - Childcare Coordinator may now pay for services, 6:15-7:45pm time frame
  - New & Open Committee Positions
    - Classroom Connections Chair - Adding classroom parents and will need a coordinator to serve as a liaison between the PTA and the 21 classrooms

- Family Fun Event Chair - Opposite year from the Winter Auction
    - Chair will help decide if we host a dance or something else
  - School Connections Chair – research and write quick blurbs about the school for newsletter and website
  - Grant Writer – could apply for grant to cover costs of wall mural?
- Fall Fundraiser
  - Lots of options – what ‘kind of’ fundraiser do we want?
    - Do we want a vendor that sells lots of things or limited items?
    - Do we want to do a fundraiser where we don’t sell anything?
    - Pencils or other little things that the kids can sell?
  - Diana suggested Innisbrook wrapping paper, take order catalog
    - Idea was well liked, voted to look into more details
    - Diana will chair this fundraiser
  - Amber suggested Bucky Books, sell onsite fundraiser
    - Commission on each book is \$18.33, so we would need to sell 220 books, in order to earn what the frozen food fundraiser pulled in this year
    - We have options for distribution - Can take pre-sale orders to fulfill at one time. Books can be onsite, so orders can be fulfilled as they come in. Books can be sold at back to school night and/or the fall book fair
    - Voted to try Bucky Books, chair person needed
- Board Elections!
  - Secretary – Megan Davis
    - Approved with a unanimous vote
  - Treasure – no nominations
  - Vice President – Diana Rodriguez
    - Approved with a unanimous vote
  - President – Amber Sehgal
    - Approved with a unanimous vote