

**OCE PTA Meeting Agenda  
September 13, 2022  
Media Center**

**Attendance:** Erin May, Kathryn Broaddus, Jen Curtis-Maury, Bridget Robertson, Robyn Salzman, Laurie Jendrasiak, Mandy MacNaughton, Beth Lavin, Julie Chase, Carolyn Bentley

**Welcome/Introduction** - Mandy MacNaughton, President

- Outdoor Classroom Areas
  - Moved metal picnic tables to cottage area
  - Looked at shade structures, which are 30-40% more expensive than last year; these are on our wish list for this year
- Update from Sean Kernick (mural artist)
  - Grade level teams had a creative meeting to discuss themes/etc. for the murals; there is a desire to return to the nautical/clipper theme
  - Erin and Mandy met with Sean to discuss ideas; some things that came up include incorporating growth mindset (adjust sails, no sinking, etc.); perhaps a stormy scene moving to a sunny scene across the cottages
  - Will keep in mind that this is an elementary school; will send ideas for how to make our ideas come to life
  - Murals will go near cottages, in hallways, and perhaps inside the gym (depending on budget)
  - Going to think about how to update the current mural that was painted 25 years ago when the school opened

**Principal Report** – Ms. May

- Tuesday treat donations: took 1.5 h to take the cart around to all teachers/staff, but very much appreciated!
- Apex Leadership Fun run going great so far; teachers have lots of spirit
- Staff wishlist items that Ms May is working on:
  - Safety - no left turn onto Kelly Rd at pick up/drop off; we will put up a permanent sign, a sign in the road, or something similar, but it. must be on our campus; will use rent from church to do this
  - Added a beautiful acrylic sign of the OCE vision to the conference room
  - Promethean boards got delivered; there have been 3 in-house training sessions so far (Ms Laneir and Ms Johnson), we used the workday yesterday to host optional training;
    - These boards are awesome! They are mobile (on carts), super durable, and lots of kids can write on them at once
    - We should highlight this on social media for OCE! (videos of teachers/students using them, etc.)
- WCPSS funding: \$9 million renovation of OCE currently underway. The heating and air systems are being renovated right now. Mr Boyer is the lead for this project.
  - On the list for renovation: lights, speakers, fire alarms, cameras, plumbing, ceilings, etc. (they work 4 pm to 6 am, holidays, etc.)

- Upcoming cultural arts assemblies
- Poetry nights coming up
- Glow stick parties (Apex Leadership) coming up
- Lots of teacher workdays coming up (yesterday, 10/24, 11/8)
  - October is a nice calm month for year-round schools
- Two teacher/staff vacancies remain: Track 1 first grade and Music (could be an announcement soon), Ms May would love to have chorus this year.
- Next inclement weather day will trigger Saturday school
  - Board is trying to not do any virtual (asynchronous) days
- Language count for OCE: ~30
  - 90 identified students for ESL
    - Increased contract for 12 months for ESL teacher
    - Large increase in diversity
    - School messenger is translated into ~10 languages (parents will get messages in the preferred language if parent specifies language)
    - There is an interpreting department of WCPSS that helps meet the needs of these families

### **Treasurer Report** – Julie Chase

- Apex Leadership funded about 70% of the PTA budget last year; Note that this fundraising is not for day-to-day school operations but for the extras (carnival, movie night, walk to school wednesday, etc.). These fundraisers fund the PTA so we can offer all the extras for the school.
- Budget for this year is based on a \$50,000 profit from the Apex Leadership fundraiser; we can fund everything if we bring in this amount. We are well on track for all planned items for this year.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Staff Appreciation** – Angie Kirkland and Kelli Joyner

- Fall treat cart 10/28

#### **Book Fair** – Angie Kirkland and Kelli Joyner

- Total sales from the fall book fair was \$25,000 (most so far); Ms Lanier took cash to purchase materials for the media center
- March 1 - 14 dates for the spring book fair

#### **Walk to School Wednesday** – Ed Hornbeck

- Jen (Town of Apex long-term planning) participated; lots of walkers, raffle prizes; Western Wake Crisis Ministry will participate next month (collect items for them)

#### **Apex Leadership** – Laurie Jendrasiak

- Remix is Friday; fundraising feels behind right now but is at expected levels; current total is ~\$39,000 (profit \$22,000)
  - PTA budget states a a profit of \$50,000
- Does not have to do anything, all run by the company

- Sign-up genius for Friday parent volunteers will go out soon; need volunteers to mark t-shirts, etc.
  - Parent volunteer shifts will cover two grades to avoid parents coming in and out of the school all day long

### **New Family Welcome** – Kelli Joyner

- Only 1 person showed up for the morning event, and 3 people attended the evening event (although this was the night before the hurricane-related school closure)
- Should we try again?
  - Maybe November
  - More social media advertisements

### **Spirit Wear** – Kathryn Broaddus

- Ordered in advance of the school year to have inventory for the new school year
  - started with 300, now at 60 shirts
- Would like to consider a new vendor (Spirit wear by Booster): in-house artist; open store for ~2 weeks for people to order (ship to school always free or ship to home free for purchases greater than \$50; items arrive at the school nicely organized); minimal set-up on our end; offers nice material shirt at a slightly higher price point (\$16-17); can also do hats, joggers, sweatshirts, athletic shirts, stickers, etc., in all sizes; price also depends on the number of colors; design could be printed on any color shirt
  - Apex Leadership does not offer a t-shirt department, so it's not really a conflict of interest between Apex Leadership and Boosterthon
  - Potential issues: don't want to offer too close to previous t-shirt sales, but if people want spirit wear for holiday gifts the timeline is super tight
  - Idea: see what design Sean has and then go with a design in the spring that corresponds with 25 years, refresh/rebrand, new murals →Yes!
  - If open for 2 weeks, what is the turnaround? Quite quick shipping, the design process is what takes time,
  - Only need 10 of each item to sell to make it worth it
  - All clubs can do t-shirts through this as well

### **Board Advisory Council Meeting** - Bridget Robertson

- Upcoming elections: school board candidates (Lindsay Mahaffey (incumbent) and Steve Bergstrom) and bonds (general school bond for WCPSS 7-year plan and Wake Tech Community College bond)
  - Talking points: healthy schools are good for property values
  - Candidate forums are on YouTube - can we add links to the Beacon?
- Student assignment discussion:
  - Current boundaries for high school assignments within the OCE boundaries are shifting; new plan will be voted on in November; primarily affects neighborhoods to the east of OCE (shift from Friendship to Apex High)
  - Biggest impact of the latest assignment plan is on the high school level

**Loyalty** - Beth Lavin

- Amazon Smile donations for Prime Day
- Social media blast going out today
- \$639 from Amazon Smile and loyalty cards so far