



## **Oak-Land Middle School**

**PTA Meeting: Wednesday, April, 18 2018**

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **Mr. Fields' Principal's Report**

Oak-Land is in the midst of MCA testing. The data from testing provides meaningful information - where students have shown improvement and where they still need to grow.

In the last 2 weeks, Mr. Fields and Mr. Kane have met with 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in their advisories about harmful language, in particular language about our differences. They are sending the message that our words have power. They have separately talked with 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders in the auditorium; as the year gets closer to the end, the 6<sup>th</sup> graders are more like 7<sup>th</sup> graders and the 7<sup>th</sup> graders are more like 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The message was – show us your best! There was a reminder about the dress code. The message – in the morning, ask yourself, “is what I’m wearing appropriate today?”

Last day of school: the 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be having an in-house field trip, a relaxed day to have the school to themselves – gym time, lunch, pool time with lifeguard, etc. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade will go to Como Zoo and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade will complete some community service.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade will have a culminating activity towards the end of the year; Mr. Fields is talking with 8<sup>th</sup> grade leaders about what that will look like.

#### **PTA Business:**

We continue to move forward toward changing the focus of the PTA from fundraising to community. So far, this is what this will look like:

- PTA will still need to raise money to fund teacher appreciation, but we are looking at how to do this meaningfully. Mr. Fields' "wish list" of items he'd like to purchase for the school (like the technology, school safety, and high interest books that have been purchased in recent years) that have been fundraised through the Give to the Max campaign will likely be in the form of an up-front ask via FeePay at the start of the school year.
- PTA meetings quarterly.
- Meetings would still have a school update from Principal Fields, but additionally each meeting would feature a different topic/invited speaker. The success of the "Screenagers" viewing was encouraging - relevant topics bring people together. Several topics were thrown out – adolescence, mental health, diversity, technology, bullying, school safety with a mock crisis exercise, student financial literacy with a tie-in to funding for college... Mr. Fields will reach out to parents in May about topic ideas – what do YOU want to come hear about?
- Plan family events that may change from year to year – we will start out next year with a back-to school or homecoming picnic in the fall, and an Oak-Land family outing to a Saints game in the spring.

**Our next meeting is ... next school year! Meeting dates are in the process of being determined.**