**October PTA Meeting**

**October 6, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by PTA President Kristin Zauel at 7:02.

24 people were in attendance.

**Principal’s Update Lisa Reddel**

* Interim report cards coming home on Thursday October 13 – you may get one or you may not. It should not be a surprise.
* Kids are well protected in school and take cues from the adults around them (both inside and outside of the school). Sangster is larger than some middle schools functioning in an elementary school.
* 36% teacher shortage in the U.S. We are doing so much with less in schools.
* 4 grade levels already took field trips (grades 1,3,5 and 6). Good team building and shows relevance of what they are doing.
* Teachers are learning math teaching skills on October 7th from district coach to help address standards of County and VA.
* Professional development is crucial and is happening in math and reading.
* Principal’s coffee is on October 19th from 8:15-9:30. The topic is “Maintaining Your Child’s Motivation for Learning Throughout the School Year.” Both the school psychologist and social worker will be in attendance. It has to be before or after school due to school size restrictions. There is no longer room in the library during regular school hours. Kids are welcome but understand that topics will be for adults. There is no daycare. Coffees are just another venue to spend time with parents. They are not meant to be stressful. It is fine if you can’t make it.
* November 7 is a Teacher Work Day. November 8th is Election Day and Sangster will be closed to schools and before/after school programs. It will only be a polling place. Even the teachers will be working from home.
* October 14 - Field Day
* October 20 – Literacy Tips for Primary Kids (geared towards K-2nd) at 9:15am and 6:30pm
* October 23- Sangster Fun Run
* October 27- Technology Night
* Educate yourself on Meals Tax. 4% increase on prepared foods and restaurants. Board of Supervisors stated 70% would go towards Fairfax County Schools and 30% would go towards County Services which include capital improvements and property tax relief.
* There will be four Days of Thanksgiving lunch this year instead of three.

**Assistant Principal’s Report Allison Jankovich**

* Cogats (2nd grade and new students in grades 3-7) October17-28th

**Minutes Review**

* Motions made to accept minutes and seconded. Motion approved on voice vote.

**Business Matters Kristin Zaul**

* Directory is Fall Fundraiser. We have made approximately $8500 from the PTA Directory. It will be out around Thanksgiving.
* Three primary goals of PTA fundraising money are : professional development (training for teachers), technology (laptops, white boards), and Literacy Room supplies.
* Coding Club was approved. They had enough participants for 2 classes. However, there is not enough space to hold to concurrent classes. Once it runs smoothly, they might be able to add a second club.
* Think Kindness Assembly was very well received. He talked about being a “Kindness Ninja”- doing nice things without being noticed. The class that has the most Kindness Journals will have a pizza party.
* We will have another Assembly in the spring (probably June and after SOLs). We have been in contact with the Franklin Institute.
* We will purchase $2000 Literacy Non-Fiction materials for Literacy Room as already approved by PTA.
* Looking for Approval on Professional Development. Teachers need most up to date information. Most teachers are paying out of pocket for classes and most classes are in evening taking away from teacher family time. With no Early Release Mondays, teachers don’t have professional development at school. There are 12 hours of “banked early release time” during which the teachers will come together on site for Personal Development. October 7th is Math Day. Letters Training for K-2 teachers is planned for the future. PTA will pay for substitute teachers so that full time teachers can get training during school hours. $5000 needed for above. Motions made to approve spending. Motion approved on voice vote.

**Treasure’s Report**

* Checking account balance as of September 30, 2016 is $25,602.90

**Committee Reports**

* “Screen on the Green” will now be held on October 14th (changed d/t weather). Smencils and Smens will be available during Thanksgiving lunches.
* Spirit Wear this year has made over $2300. Fridays are Spirit Wear Days.
* Reflections Contest deadline is October 14th. Students can enter in different categories. Box in the office for students to turn in entries.
* Science Fair is March 23rd.
* Box Tops first submission is October 27th.
* Directory contest picture had over 30 entries.
* Sign Up Genius full for Teacher Thanksgiving luncheon in November.
* Bring cards and artwork for Veteran’s Day to drop box in office during month of October.

**The Meeting was adjourned at 8:01.**