

**Attendees:** Erika Wald, Chris and Tamara Knudson, Shawna Nicholson, Laura Casey, Tabatha Reeves, Sarah Cunningham, Rhonda Clark, Jeff Daniels, Bree Hernandez

- **Principal's Update (Rhonda on behalf of Debra)**
  - Master schedule – vision mission statement for Odyssey
    - Daily advisory with student for emotional/social/organization
    - Block academic times (projects, applications, community outreach)
    - “Crucial Conversations” – book
  - EPIC – Jan Leppein – similar to Exploratories
    - Will be taught by teachers
    - Multi-age groupings on Fridays – Set times
    - working on community
  - Need to improve communication between teachers and parents (e.g. for Tessera students to Home School teachers)
  - Survey Monkey – about school improvements – will come out soon
  - Advisory theme for next year is “Building our Community”
- **Financial Update (Erika):**
  - Current Balances
    - Checking = \$27,731.32
    - Savings = 13,932.43
  - Chalk: \$1,000 budget. Went over budget. **ACTION ITEM:** Add for discussion to refine for budget next year. Should maybe discuss limiting number or length of entries to meet budget.
  - Counselor has money in PTG budget to spend – could use for band/orchestra dress clothes
  - Upcoming purchases: Theater, Chalk, and 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance/Promotion, Math is Cool (Masters for 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> graders)
  - Camp scholarships – unknown at this time...still working out the details.
  - Odyssey Merit Award (\$550 – 2-\$250 awards for one boy and one girl, and plaques).
- **APEX update and results:**
  - Total collected \$18,133.16 (\$11,612.06 online and \$6,500 cash/check)
  - Odyssey portion will be approximately 50% (~\$9,077.58)
  - \$842.48 still due to APEX (\$8,163.55 paid to date)
  - \$1,500 check has been mailed back to us.
  - Several parents “pledge later” button but never received a reminder email or directions to pay later.
    - **ACTION ITEM:** We will follow up to try to notify remaining pledgers of payment methods. Some emails are bad, some may have been blocked by spam filters.
- **Odyssey Merit Award:**
  - Winners determined by EWU staff
    - Jana Jaraysi, Associate Director of Admissions
    - Jim Fitzgerald, Academic Coordinator of Athletics

- Sabrina Meyer-Quiroz, Academic Advisor of the College of Social Sciences
  - Thank you gift for reviewers – 4 total (\$10 Starbucks gift cards)
  - Winners will be announced at the end of the year assembly. Following the announcement, winners will be posted on the PTG website along with general feedback from the reviewers.
- **Passive Fundraising (Jeff Daniels)**
  - Benefit mobile app
    - Many partners – Walmart, Target, Home Depot, IHOP, and many more!
    - Benefit sends out a monthly e-check to our account through Deluxe
    - Jeff will provide additional details as he gets them.
    - Benefit rate is good; varies depending on vendor 3-12%
  - We do have Amazon Smile activated already – login with “Smile” before Amazon and all purchases from Amazon will go towards the school.
    - Jeff will check into adding school supply list to SMILE – work with Debbie Donohue
    - Benefit rate for SMILE program is only 0.5%.
  - Amazon Associates has better benefit rates, 3-15%
    - **ACTION ITEM:** We will setup new account since old account was sunsetted by Amazon.
  - Group voted "yes" to try out Benefit.com passive fundraising program
- **1<sup>st</sup> Day Information Packet (2016-2017 school year):**
  - College Camp budget/information
    - Need preliminary numbers before school begins
  - Parent participation expectations (incoming families), orientation, open house
  - Open House/Pizza Night
    - Discussed options for separating Open House and Pizza Night into two separate events.
    - Focus Pizza Night into a Parent Mentor or Adopt-a-Parent Night to help new/incoming families to Odyssey.
      - Build community
      - Increase flow of information between veteran parents and new families
      - Kids activities in the Gym and parent meeting (orientation) in another room
      - Serve Pizza and popcorn
  - Consider "Coffee Day" on the first day for new parents?
  - Need to do a better job of using Signup Genius (or other tools) to engage volunteers.
  - Setup computers at Open House Night / Pizza Night, Coffee Day.
  - Need to setup Signup Genius in advance for all major events throughout the year for people to sign up on at open house / pizza night.
  - Need to mention passive fundraising methods in first day packets.
  - Need to remind teachers of classroom enhancement funding availability for next year. Send email.

- We need a list of all the teachers' email. **ACTION ITEM:** Request list from Odyssey staff.
- **2016-2017 School year ideas:**
  - Rhonda will invite teachers at BLT meeting to begin participating in at PTG meetings. She suggested on a rotating basis so that there is always a teacher representative.
    - Purpose to increase communication between parents and teachers and build community
  - Adopt-a-parent (parent mentoring session)
  - Gauge interest in Chess Club – Inland Chess Academy may offer scholarships
    - Sarah Cunningham volunteered to help coach Chess Club
- **Volunteer Needs :**
  - 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Field Day (June 13)
    - Rhonda will check with Mr. Freidland about volunteer needs.
  - Current Open PTG positions –
    - Citizens Advisory Committee (2 positions)
      - Amina Field – recommended by Danielle Schilbe
      - Shawna Nicholson has been attending and agreed to serve as a CAC representative for Odyssey
    - Volunteer coordinator – Filled (Cora (Bree) Hernandez )
    - Secretary – filled (Tabatha Reeves)
    - Treasurer elect – open
    - President elect – open
    - **ACTION ITEM:** Tamara to develop descriptions of duties associated with each volunteer position and send to Jeff for distribution.
  - Volunteers
    - Post list as many places / formats as possible – Jeff to help with this.
    - Develop task list for events as a guide for future PTG use.
    - Request volunteers on a monthly basis?
    - Need to utilize volunteer pool across grades – rather than only by class/grade level
    - Need to improve communication to parent volunteers – not getting the information.
    - Lego Coach and Assistant Lego Coach – Gerald Ocker (confirm)
      - Sarah Cunningham willing to assistant coach
    - Sarah Cunningham volunteered to coach chess club
    - Madilyn Hutchinson volunteered to continue as Event Coordinator
    - **ACTION ITEM:** We will setup Signup Genius to send out to all parents to sign up for PTG Board positions.
- **Other Business: No New Business**
- **Next Meeting:** TBD (before start of 2016/2017 school year)