Odyssey PTG meeting 9/23/15 6PM

**Attendees:** Chris and Tamara Knudson, Mindy Gagne, Barb Jeske, Debra Dewitt, Debbie Donahue, Erika Wald, Danielle Schilbe, Yuri Morozov, Madilyn Hutchinson, Shawna Nicholson, Laura Pascow? Trish Ellingson, Brook Swanson, Liqun (Catherine), Laura Casey, RaeAnn Nolander, Melissa Shriver.

## Agenda:

## **Updates:** Debra Dewitt:

- Tomorrow last late start day begin at 8AM after Sept. 24,
- Tomorrow is picture day,
- Single point of entry
- Feedback on Pizza night split feelings 5/6 liked format, 7/8<sup>th</sup> felt pressured and less able to talk to teachers. Nice turnout. Teachers felt like they were stamping instead of conversing with parents. Mixed feedback about stamps some liked it, some were unsure as to purpose.
- Last night NJHS induction based on academics with several requirements
- officer ASB interviews today
- Barb suggested maybe more information for NJHS

## **Libby Volunteer Sign-up Forms**: entered

- How to disseminate that information?
- Will send information to teachers
- Will send volunteer list to Rhonda and Exploratory list (cc Debbie Donahue)
- Discussed Exploratories for new Odyssey parents

## Volunteer need for the next several months:

- Play-a-thon (6 before and 6 after) and assembly (volunteers needed 2-3)
  - October 30<sup>th</sup> assembly Play-a-thon begins October 31<sup>st</sup> –Nov 6<sup>th</sup> Kids will turn everything in by the Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> to be eligible for prizes.
  - Will last for one week kids play/practice at home and record their minutes. Will turn
    in at the end of the week for prizes. Hoffman and Wonders of the World will provide
    some prizes. Hoping to get free personal pizzas for each kid. Most number of pledges
    and most minutes played. Mr. Meredith would provide a slot car party for best 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>
    grade class.
  - Could use daily trinkets as incentives.
  - o Barb would like to have PTG send out flyer or email about Play-a-thon.
  - Debbie suggested contacting McDonalds, Onion, or Tomato Street for coupons.
  - Add to Libby Newsletter
  - Would like to keep fundraising in-house and not contract out.
  - o Students will hear about Play-a-thon in music classes prior to assembly
  - Class cup didn't do it last year.

Erika brought up Fun Run from Moran Prairie. – Profit was >\$20k – can look into this further later after Play-a-thon.

**Sense of community** – 8<sup>th</sup> grade class wasn't very happy when they left – bullying increased. Also parent volunteer pool seems to be getting smaller.

- o How to increase "community" culture at Libby?
- This year seems to be better so far. climate in lunchroom seems to be better kinder and gentler
- o Exploratories and activities that are integrated 5,6,7,8<sup>th</sup> engage together.
- Could we evolve independent project (springtime) to be more integrated. (Debra)
- Workshops having kids teach kids a skill, or activity could help.
- O Also how to increase community among parents?
- Older parents mentor younger parents share experiences with incoming parentssupport
- Topic for parent night How to survive with Libby
- Host a group here for twice exceptional kids (emotional support)
- Debbie suggested a Facebook page
- PTG working toward a class directory

Financials: \$13, 929 in savings, \$6529 in checking

- Made over \$600 at pizza night in donations
- Opportunities for grandparent donations
- Still having trouble switching over PayPal account Erika couldn't access account until today. Still some unanswered questions.
- Tessera purchase request –anything over \$250 requires PTG vote. Mr. Baer requested \$299.99 for microscope. PTG members approved payment unanimously.

Next meeting October 21st.