

DPTO Meeting - August 21, 2019

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DPTO Leadership Team: Andie Romano, Megan Neitzel, Michelle Thompson

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D303 Administration Liaison: Mrs. Carol Smith (Communications Director)

School Board Member Liaison: Mrs. Becky McCabe

DPTO meetings take place 3rd Wednesday of every month, for those looking to attend.

President's Council-

- A meeting notice will go out to all PTO presidents to come together for a meeting before the September DPTO meeting.
- The purpose of this meeting is to understand how the DPTO team can improve communication and information dissemination with PTO board and their parent community.

Upcoming Events-

- Random Acts of Kindness
 - September 15th 2-6pm
 - Mount St. Mary's Park, St Charles.
 - <https://www.facebook.com/RandomActsMatter/>.
 - Join Random Acts Matter for our 3rd annual Afternoon of Random Acts: our one and only fundraising event of the year focused on "Community Taking Action to Help the Community."
- Excel Automotive Wrapping Party
 - December 12

Group discussion ideas shared about volunteers-

- Assign a board member as a contact person for each event/committee. The board member then is responsible for reporting status at PTO meetings.
- Make descriptions and clear outline for each event and committee
- Send volunteer sign-ups for next year's events at the end of the school year to get on people's calendars.
- Have a bank of "general volunteers" who can be called upon if extra help is needed for any particular event. Similar to Wredling's Red Shirt program. Break it down more specifically into groups of volunteers: willing to donate money, willing to donate supplies, willing to donate time.

Box Tops-

- Changed to digital.
- Clippings accepted until they expire.
- Box Top App gives you 14 days to scan a receipt but app needs improvement.
- Does not work every time.
- Parents need PTOs to educate them on how to use the app.
- It might be helpful to have a video tutorial to send out to parents.

Some fundraising efforts PTOs use-

- Amazon smile. App for phone to be released soon. Have to promote it to parents.
- My Coke Rewards
- Boosterthon. <https://boosterthon.com/>
- Kona Ice <https://www.kona-ice.com/>
- Food Trucks: BBQ, pizza etc.
- Corporate sponsors - parents or local businesses - Levels of sponsorship but mainly signage.

Staff Appreciation ideas-

- Have staff appreciation events every month
- Viator Coffee Cart <https://viatorcoffeecart.com/>. Gave teacher/staff an order form prior to the day and then had order delivered to the teacher/staff. *(Coffee cart is also a good idea for a vendor at events.)
- Cookie exchange and coffee/hot chocolate
- D303 food service: Organic life (ES and MS) and Quest (HS). Bring in food for teachers and staff.

Sensory Pathway-

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gDefbr7Vlro> .
- A sensory path is a great way for kids to develop motor skills: balance, hand-eye coordination, and spatial awareness.
- It is normally made with stickers that can be stuck to any surface.
- Sensory paths are also an important part of a concept called sensory play , which is exactly what it sounds like: play designed to stimulate and improve child's five senses.
- Bell Graham will be installing one and will share pictures of what it looks like at a future DPTO meeting.
- Link to Bell Graham sensory path package- <https://jump2math.ca/product/sensory-floor-wall-decal-set-mother-nature/>

Community Service Volunteer Opportunities for Students at various D303 schools-

- Ferson Creek will be partnering with Gray Willows Farm for opportunities for students.

- The Caring Eagles (Norton Creek)
- Student Council (5th graders at Corron)
- Food Drive
- Spirit Club
- For Scout Foundation <https://www.communityfoundationfrv.org/profile/for-scout-foundation/> - Sensory Cove swim program meets the needs of autistic children. (Otter Cove St Charles Park District)

PTO Meetings- Ideas from D303 schools about what happens at their meetings:

- Teacher/staff liaison attend PTO meetings.
- Students from different grades/classes attend and present something they are doing in class to the PTO board.
- In High School teachers/staff and students attend meetings.
- Daytime and evening meetings - some schools rotate times depending on attendance.
- Facebook Live - Norton Creek used it to involve more parents after closure of Fox Ridge. They streamed the meeting. Got permission from attendees first. Comments can come through during the meeting and can be addressed.
- Richmond/Davis used Facebook Live to stream a recap of the meeting
- Speakers booked for night meetings. (Child psychologist, Internet safety, etc.)

Mrs. Carol Smith reporting about Parent University Calendar Preview-

- <https://district.d303.org/parent-university>
- Every month Mrs. Smith will recap the previous month's event and remind us of upcoming events.
- Parent University programs aimed at engaging local experts, parents and school staff in conversations about ways in which we can collectively strengthen our communities.
- Programs are free and open to the public.
- 2019-2020 PARENT UNIVERSITY CALENDAR:
 - September 23, 2019 Viewing of the Documentary "LIKE" at Norris Cultural Arts Center at 6:30 p.m. LIKE, from the producers of the movie ANGST, is about the impact of social media on our lives. <https://www.thelikemovie.com/>
 - October 30, 2019 Digital Citizenship at Thompson Middle School Cafeteria at 6:30-8:00 p.m.
 - November 2019 Project Lead The Way Video.
 - February & March "The Whole Brain Child" by Dr. Dan Siegel Book Study. Be a part of a book study group when we read, The Whole Brain Child
 - March 19, 2020 Wake Up Call Haines Building Gymnasium 6:30-8:00 p.m. Wake Up Call is a three-part drug and alcohol prevention presentation.
 - Vaping Video (Mrs. Smith) Two high school students whose lives were negatively impacted by vaping, speak candidly to middle school students about the dangers of vaping.

Dr Pearson's Report-

- New Let's Talk Tool

- Helps the district know trending issues
- Helps track how the district responds to these issues
- Goal is to improve communication
- Compliment tab to celebrate the good things/people in the district
- There is an app for Let's Talk.

- PLP (Personalized Learner Profile)
 - Something new for the district.
 - This program will collect data for the state, and for the students use as well.
 - There will be a parent portal.
 - It is in the development stage. It will roll-out to high school students in January.
 - They are working on making it an app.
 - It is like a resume for students, to keep track of not only grades, but extra-curricular activities.
 - It will create a profile for success by bundling information about a students work experience, internships, clubs, activities, awards, etc.

- Extended School Day for next year-
 - There will be a committee forming in the fall.
 - Board will hear plans for it soon.
 - It will be a district level decision for enrichment opportunities.
 - There might be a menu of opportunities for schools to choose from.
 - There might be trouble staffing all opportunities (eg.- foreign language), so there may be a rotational program.
 - There might be different opportunities offered per grade level.
 - There will be a 3 tier bus system for the district.

- Citizens Advisory Board-
 - This will replace the Community Relations Committee.
 - This will be a focus group with the goal to provide the board with feedback.
 - Applications will be available soon.

- Thompson Middle School Open House-
 - Over 200 people attended
 - Wonderful opportunity where many original Thompson alumni were able to come see the new building.

Future DPTO Agenda Items- PTO Dues, PTO Bylaws

Next DPTO Meeting: September 18, 2019 at 9:30am in the D303 Administration Building.