**PTA Board Meeting – July 27, 2017**

**President’s Update:**

Gentle Reminder: Please remember to join the PTA – there is a tab on the MCES App and it is an annual membership

**Advocacy Chair Role:**

* ESL and translation – make sure there is access to all materials for all students and families
* Resource in PTA who is knowledgeable about magnet schools and other school options
* Knowledgeable about AIG, SSA, CCR, and other services offered at the school
* Be informed about outside services parents may be interested in – ex: Duke TIP
* Monitor announcements and other legislative happenings that could impact school
* Goal: We (school and PTA) may not coordinate all resources but we will be educated on needs for any students and their families

**First General Meeting:**

Aug 17th – Seesaw and Google classroom presentation – Really going to push attendance and take RSVPs through MCES app – students will be helping with presentation

**Communications:**

* Plan to use app for almost everything
* 470 downloads so far – continuing to push out through all channels
* Cost for first year was $2000, following years will be $900
* Step 2: use advertising spaces to raise funds on the app
* Becky Lewis has stepped down from VP of Communications; Replacing her is Jen Dowden will be our VP of Communications. Welcome Jen!
* Primary Communication Tools: 1) App 2) Newsletter 3) Facebook
* App Related Messaging/Questions: Nadine is main contact

**Hospitality & Spirit Days:**

* 4 Early Release Lunches – parents will be asked once for the full school year to fund lunches for catering
* Snack Cart – New Offering – used on off months when there isn’t a teacher lunch
* Celebrating birthday with treats in mailboxes
* Teacher appreciation: May 7-11 (1&2) May 21-25 (3&4) – now aligned with national teacher appreciation month
* Monthly Spirit Days – spirit awards for each grade level

**Book Fair Dates:**

September 25-29 (2&4) and Oct 2-6 (1&3)

**Calendar:**

If your committee is planning events, please select dates soon so that we can confirm the annual school calendar

**Bulletin Boards:**

In past we have had a bulletin board coordinator, this year the person running the event will also be in charge of the bulletin board for better coordination.

**Award Plaques:**

Science Olympiad, Spelling Bee, Reflections – add a name each year

**Principal’s Announcement:**

* Once traditional school starts, expect bus delays – shortage of bus drivers for the county
* Still concerned about class size restrictions, reprieve for this year is K-3 cap of 20 (we are at 19.78)
* Classroom Caps for next year: K-18, 1st-16, 2nd-17, 3rd-17….this will lead to tracking in and out of classrooms to accommodate. There is not funding for music, art, and PE at this point. School District is working on this issue and we need to keep it at forefront.
* Kindness Rally – build a culture of kindness and respect towards everyone – Sept 7 (1&4) and Sept 15 (2&3) – scheduled to take place outside 8:45am – 9:15am – Rally: community member speak, high school drumline, activity with Coach, reveal kindness rock – then students can pass rocks along to people who are being kind and the rocks will make their way to the garden. Will also have a kindness bragtag that every student will receive after the rally. Work at each assembly on kindness and respect
* Freshening of student restrooms and lobby – selecting paint colors
* Currently looking at technology upgrades in the school – smart tvs to replace projectors ($1200 each for the tv, cables, stand)
* Refrigerator in staff lounge is dying. County will not pay for because it isn’t for instruction. Plea: help replace lounge refrigerator for the teachers and staff. Could also use a chest freezer.

Suggested topic for upcoming general meeting – invite local legislator to discuss potential impacts of next year’s changes to class size and funding

Approved budget will be posted on app for members to view

**Food Drive:**

Dates to come for October Food Drive, will be foodraising for the school pantry and Holly Springs Food Cupboard and offering a virtual food drive option for Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC as part of the Students Against Hunger initiative (<http://www.foodbankcenc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=getinvolved_sah>)