

Lower School Parent Rep Meeting
September 17, 2009
6th Ave Cafeteria

Introductions:

All parent reps present introduced themselves at the meeting stating their name, their kids name and grade and what class they were a parent rep for.

Namita's Welcome Comments:

We are off to a great school year, lots of energy in at school

Professional Development Day went really well.

Excellent group of new teachers

Changes within the school:

Dawn: Asst Principal

Suzanne: Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator

Dena Tasse-Winter: Assistant to the lower school principal

Parent Reps-how does it work?

Parent Reps in each division, usually 2 or 3

PA coordinators in each of the divisions (lower, middle and high school)

Co-Presidents of entire PA introduced: Kim Hostler and Regina Trumbull

PA Exec Committee: generally meets 2x a month, consists of chairs of committees, PA officers and coordinators

How to be a Parent Rep:

Hand out was given with specific details about how to be a parent rep

Introduce yourself to your parents and teachers

Each teacher will make use of Parent Rep in their own way

Divide responsibility of job with your other Parent Rep

Potlucks:

Handouts were given to the PA reps regarding potlucks, gifts

Strongly encouraged to have a potluck, especially in 4's, 4's-K and K classes

Run the dates by Kim and Regina to make sure that there are no school conflicts

Ask someone in class to host the event

Potluck means everyone contributes by bringing something. Not an event to be catered or waited

Ask parents to help set up and clean up

Gift Policy:

Money will be collected at end of year for teacher gift. At any other time, a homemade gift is preferred

Teacher marriage, birth of child: max solicitation is \$5

Any class parent celebrating a special occasion- there will be no class collection of a gift as it becomes too expensive for families to contribute. Cards and homemade gifts are preferred.

Birthday Policy:

Invite entire class, all boys or all girls or just a few classmates

Invites should be sent to home and not distributed at school

Make sure that birthday party does not leave directly from school, choose an off-site venue to meet if birthday party occurs during weekday.

Discussion of making sure everyone is included:

Spirit of school community should be remembered when organizing events for both children and adults. Moms'/dads'/parents' nights out—each class can plan as feels appropriate—please give thought to what your event is called and how invitations are worded. Include faculty and staff parents.

Curriculum Night:

Sept 24th for 4's-1st grade at 6pm

Oct 1st 2nd-4th grade at 6pm

Childcare will be provided

Blog:

Primary means of communication from school

Teachers will have messages for their class on the blog

When writing an email to parents as a PA Rep, add the blog link to the bottom of the page so parents can refer to it.

LREI Exchange:

Way for LREI community to exchange information

Many people wanted to opt out as there were too many emails being sent

LREI exchange currently offline, when it goes back online it will be Opt-In where you will receive a digest 1x a day or just read on the web

Next lower school PA meeting Thursday October 15th at 8:45am

In attendance:

Namita Tolia, Susie Marples, Kim Hostler, Regina Trumbull, Connie Butler, Juliet Burrows, Shannon Barden, Marisa Droga, Becca Markley, Liselotte Vince, Mishi Hosono, Kim Beck, Ceci Van Blerkom, Sara Taplitz, Ken Alpart, Mary Gerzema, A.M. Homes, Blanche Uyttendaele, Marjorie Goldner, Keith Bunnell, Hillary Butler, Denise Roederer, Amy Lipshutz, Naomi Niwa-Theisen, Gillian Blades, Carin Ehrenberg, Lisa Paolella, Emily Faulkner

Submitted by Liselotte Vince