

**MINUTES
JANUARY 16, 2020
DEDHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT GROUP**

ATTENDANCE: Kim Lynch, Lisa Laprade, Tracey White, Tammy Scelsi, Parker Willard Jr., Nancy Hanley, Karen Hillman, Jenn Harris, Julie Morrison

START TIME 7:10 PM

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Positions are available for next year

Bingo January-May is up on FB with a link to sign up genius – if you work it you get credit toward your son or daughters DC trip

Payments are due Feb 2nd and April 6th for the DC trip

Bingo Coordinator is being passed over to Tracey White

TREASURER REPORT:

Still have a limited supply of apparel left to sell as well as clear water bottles

A donation made to the Veteran's day assembly

Grants given to the art teachers for supplies

Cookies were left in the teachers rooms before the holidays for the entire DMS staff. The 2 secretaries were given gift cards for all their hard work and support

We will be hosting a fund raiser on Feb 8th

A gift card was sent to a family in need

The parent group has incurred charges for returned checks

Fundraiser frenzy has stopped but will be reopened in February

Textile bin out back is a great way to clean house and give to the school. We get money for each pound of textile.

We hosted a guest speaker on Vaping in Nov and it was paid for with a grant

FUNDRAISING REPORT:

Karaoke night at Waterford's on February 8th

There will be a silent auction

There will also be raffle baskets families will be asked to donate an item for the themed basket look for more info to follow

We will be setting up restaurant nights where families can go eat together and the parent group will get a percentage

PRINCIPAL REPORT:

Hand book is out dated – a committee will be started to go update the handbook

Water bottles of any time are allowed – we want children to be hydrated

Principal Hillman would like to do a MCAS presentation in the early spring

The Middle School is 10th in the state when lumped with all emanatory and Middle schools across the state of MA.

There are some new clubs that have started or soon will be (bulletin board club, National Honor Society, Student Council, Technology Club, and Year Book)

A question was asked on how parents can find info if they are not on Face Book. PTO minutes and events are usually posted on the School Web site and they are posted in the principal newsletters.

It was suggested that the Parent group make a calendar at the beginning of the year so parents are aware of roughly when events will take place

A question was asked what Access Testing is? It is testing for English Learners

PRESENTATION BY LIBRARIAN JULIE MORRISON:

There is an assistant Deanna Dellolacono

She is here to support the staff and the children

The philosophy is that children should learn skills, in a safe place

Ms Morrison is the initial contact for chrome books

Please charge nightly

Please reach out with problems

The school is tracking reasons computers are coming in to be fixed

The 2 year plan for library and Media

1. Self directed learners authentic opportunities
2. Cultivate a partnership
3. Ensure access to resources/space

The library is open from 7:40-4:00 daily

There is silent library on Fridays with Jazz music and opportunity to read/reflect

Lunch library is when children eat first then go to the library to help or work on a maker space project

Ex: a group of students make a door stopper for the library using the new 3D printer

The library is open after school 235-4

Activities in the library

Tuesday library squad and cards

Wednesday Homework club

Thursday Homework club and Musical Theater

Ms Morrison is supporting staff and students with: Curriculum, research, collaboration, student led learning,

Other initiatives happening:

Reading passport children reach books from all sections of the library

Toilet takers laminated book jackets are posted outside the bathrooms for kids to see

Golden ticket will be in the laminated book jackets and if a child reads that book they get a pencil

Library survey going out to students' staff and families to give input of ideas of what you think your child would like to see/read in the library

Public Service announcements will be made by grade 6 students

DLIT town wide reading initiative

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM