

Monday, Oct 30, 2023
Parent Leadership Team Meeting (6:30pm-7:30pm)

- Welcome
 - Sarah Barden – PLT Meeting Facilitator
 - PLT Meeting Notetaker- Lindsay Crawford

- Attendance: Jim David, Sarah Barden, Amy Blankenship, Michelle Turner, Bill Wise, Cheryl Cambron, Deborah Kelly, Lindsay Crawford, Tina Avelis, Joe McReynolds

- Committee (Current)
 - **Staff Appreciation Committee:** Brings meals monthly to the teachers; can be responsible for additional materials/supplies throughout the year; the team organizes meals or supply lists, creates a sign-up, the list is emailed to all parents for participation. There is typically 1 zoom meeting a month to coordinate that month's meal. The meals cover about 35 teachers and staff.
 - **23-24 Brittany Ferguson, Cheryl Cambron, Tisha Walker, Deborah Kelly, Lindsay Crawford**
 - **Dates:**
 - Aug 24
 - Sept 28
 - Oct 26 - Luncheon went well. Missed a few items that were signed up for.
 - Nov 30 - Theme: It's a Small World; after Thanksgiving
 - Dec 14 (our plan for this one is kind of a cookie/ sweets swap- where we bring in the sweets and you guys make a little box or container to take home; not really a "meal")
 - Jan 25
 - Feb 29
 - March 28
 - April 25
 - May 23 (We thought a last day send off would be most helpful since it'll probably be crazy plus we wanted to be sure to avoid graduation)

 - **Facebook Internal Parent Page:** The Facebook page is for parents to share information; emails to parents are posted there; families will resell used (or unused) uniforms; carpool info is posted; it's a parent-support group; it is a private group; to join the group you must answer a security question; the current security question is "Who sends the majority of STEM emails to you?"; an email will go out soon with information for parents who want to join.
 - **23-24: Michelle Turner; Sarah Barden, Jennifer Summerlin (Cheryl Cambron)**

- Updates: The Facebook page is doing well. It continues to include new participants and is gaining momentum in use by the parents for updates with the school, and a resource for parents.
- **Rising 9th Grade Parent and Student Night:** Future/new parents learn about the STEM School.
 - Date 23-24: Last year date: April 25 at 6:30pm (doors open at 6:00pm)
 - Meet and Greet PLT Table
 - Include STEM School Chattanooga Runner
 - Parents: **Shannon Gonzalez, Tisha and Scott Walker, Deborah Kelly**
 - Form for Parent Leadership Team and Information for joining Facebook Parent Group
 - A rising 9th grade introduction table will be present for our September meet and greet.
- **Silent Auction Committee:** The auction is either in person or online (last year); it raises money for materials that kids use throughout the year (digital printing materials, etc.); all the money is used at the school's discretion; the auction will run virtual in conjunction with STEM Showcase (March 17) timeframe
 - **23-24: Chairperson: Amy Blankenship**, committee: Melisa Barajas, Shannon Gonzalez, Maddie Lowry, Julie Gersch, Stephanie DeOlloqui, Bess Williams, Deborah Kelly
 - Reflection: Total amount raised \$4625. We made more money this year than last year based on the value raised and amount sold. Next year suggestions are to place a notification on the public Facebook page giving the general public an opportunity to bid as well. Also having more signage to direct traffic more efficiently. Also possibly moving the auction to a more common and well known location.
 - Anyone interested in joining the committee can message Amy. The first Zoom call will be in Nov.
 - The new district platform: Give Backs.
 - March 2024 - Funds for PBL, supplies, general needs vary year to year. Ideas: updates to The Commons, GCDI equipment, target \$, technology upgrades. Notice for donations after Thanksgiving for businesses and another big push in January.
- **National Honor Society Committee:** One night job; the STEM counselor runs this event; members help coordinate the induction ceremony; the ceremony this year will include this year's inductees; it is usually in late October or early November; this year's date is not determined yet.
 - **23-24: Shannon Gonzalez;**
 - Date: Oct 24, 2023
 - Updates: Last year's event was a success, and well attended.
 - PLT provides snacks to celebrate the induction ceremony. We will need volunteers to help.
 - Location: Bond Auditorium

- Update: The students voted to do it differently this year. Pre-activity with existing funds. Mr. David has asked the faculty sponsor how PLT can be helpful.
- **STEM Jam:** The STEM Jam is a social event for STEM students that includes multiple activities. It is held in the evening and only for STEM students. Parents assist by volunteering to chaperone and organize snacks, drinks and food.
 - **23-24: Chairperson: Jim David**
 - Parent Assistance: Lindsay Crawford; Deborah Kelly, Scott Walker, Shannon Gonzalez
 - Date 23-24: Nov 3rd (Prior week will be spirit week and will include Halloween)
 - Updates: Last year's event was fun and successful!
 - Haunted Hallway - fundraiser (\$10), robotics & houses, will help with clean up
 - Activity zones: MTG, Smash Bros, Dance, etc.
 - Need help from PLT with monitoring the food area, set up, and clean up.
 - Donation offered for popcorn machine and cotton candy machine (Lindsay)
 - Need to send volunteer Sign-Up Genius
 - Update: STEM Jam is this Friday. Looking for snacks and volunteers. NO NUTS. Mrs. Johnson has a form for volunteer sign-ups to allocate to different rooms. Volunteers arrive at 5:30pm.
- **STEM Jubilee Committee:** This committee will support organizing and running the hospitality area for the STEM Jubilee. The STEM Jubilee introduces elementary school students to a variety of science, technology, engineering and math related concepts through hands-on activities with a mission to inspire STEM curiosity and interest.
 - **23-24: Chairperson: Gabrielle Fernandez**
 - Parent Assistance: Britteny Ferguson, Lindsay Crawford
 - Date 23-24 To be determined. The week of graduation
 - Will need help with food set up for volunteer's lunch.
 - Students help (10th, 11th, & 12th as well as any 9th grader that has completed their work)
 - Update: Asked Chatt State for a date similar to last year's time frame (post-January) in May.
- **Senior Appreciation:** Janna Gillard suggested having a monthly senior appreciation event. This would highlight our seniors by providing opportunities for local activities in the community, in addition to senior oriented topics and information.
 - **23-24: Chairperson: Janna Gillard**
 - Update: Could not find a staff member for the group, therefore the group could not be run through PLT.

Possible New Committees:

- Digital Fabrication Awards Night - Inspired by NHS. Awards based on STEM unique accomplishments. Student & Staff recognition. Competitive club recognition. Possibly 2 weeks before Showcase early March. Could the students design the event, name, etc. (Design Thinking Event?) Video for parent's that cannot attend.
 - Staff likes the idea tentative date: May 2
 - Robotics Support - Next year, the plan is to host our own tournaments. The local area is saturated with robotics due to recent funding. We were unable to get into our local hub. If we host our own event, PLT support for fundraising, food, judge, event help, etc. We have 2 former students that help with the team currently.
 - Update: Hamilton County Building Committee - Weston Wamp: Amy Blankenship is attending. Insert STEM into the conversation. Pie-in-the-sky: STEM would love a middle school.
 - Mr. David to introduce new faculty & staff in the newsletter. Could student's make an introduction video?
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- Next PLT Meeting will be held: Monday, December 4th, 6:30pm.