

## PTO Meeting Notes for January 12, 2012

### **Introductions and Volunteer Requests** for father/daughter dance and school supply kits.

- Need new family coordinator to help with kindergarten tea, and back to school night for new kindergarteners
- Father/Daughter- Cosey Stones- "Delightful Daughter Ball" for a girl and the male role model in her life- wants to be clear about the meaning of this ball. Male role models to have confidence and self-esteem to give to little girls, very important.
  1. Grease Lighting Theme- poodle skirts and Thunderbirds, silver and light pink for the colors
  2. Needs someone that does balloon arches
  3. Hula hoop, limbo and other games
  4. Needs people to help set-up and tie balloons, and hang things on the walls
  5. Student council will help and other kiddos can help too, needs people to help with clean-up, need some chaperones, too during the ball.
  6. Probably serve donuts again, a big hit

### Kim, Treasurer- Highlight some of the big things:

- new computers for teachers, just under \$21,000
- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade math
- \$450 for the author per year
- faculty training
- reduced amount of \$ for teachers this year due to their new computers( \$150)
- King Soopers averaging about \$750/month, that has increased lately
- \$850 from Box Tops
- Right now we're at about \$13,000-\$14,000

### **Guest Speaker- Jessica Fiedler**, Principal from Westlake Middle School- 19 years in education

- Passed around Westlake's club programs
- Technology is a big thing now, it's changing always and they know it's important to stay on that
- Neck and Neck with Rocky Top- Both schools received B's
- Westlake for 6<sup>th</sup> graders- 3 core blocks plus 2 electives- 90min block, 6 classes, 1 exploratory
- They offer honors, they look at elementary scores, mid year scores and end yr scores and see where they'll be best placed. 8<sup>th</sup> gr offers honors in all courses
- They make virtually no choices in 6<sup>th</sup> gr- band, choir or orchestra and PE
- They have 3 different bell schedules for each grade so they don't ever mingle with the other grades during school
- Most significant issues in 6<sup>th</sup> gr- opening lockers- single biggest stressor, have them start practicing now
- they will change classes but not very often
- Social piece- dating- sitting by each other and texting- Biggest worries are bullies. Westlake deals with it quickly and swiftly. Middle school girls are the biggest one. Involve parents and teachers
- CSAP scores are very fair, but not completely satisfied with scores- B score school

### **Questions from audience:**

- Heard it's a bad school, bad reputation from neighbors- why??Mrs. Salter highly recommends this school, her daughter went there and highly recommends this.check into school yourself she said
- Another audience member says that all friends love Westlake and the core group from Meridian love it there
- When's next visit for families? February 29th for 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Pasta with the principals, spaghetti dinner and presentation, summer orientation, 6<sup>th</sup> graders have the morning on the

first day of school typically

- Schedule out yet? Not out yet. Adams 12 website will have the district calendar
- How many elementary 's feed in? 5. 985 students, next year in 1026 forecasted.
- Average class size- 29, 29, 32- 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>. Enrollment continues to go up
- About cores?? 4 cores at 6<sup>th</sup>. Each core has 3 teachers. 90 kids to core, they travel with that core to the different classes. Randomly signed to cores
- Outdoor ed to come back? Probably not
- One big difference is electives at Rocky top vs. Westlake. \*\*Middle school is harder on us than the kids
- IUP kids? They go into the class and our team teachers with regular teachers
- 25 students that are deaf- 8 interpreters. Lots of diversity with students
- They 'll have flyers to the parents that feed into Westlake
- You can't go wrong with either school-Rocky Top and Westlake, Rocky Top is a newer school.
- Health a requirement? Encourage kids to, some kids opt out. Elective in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>