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**Middle School Parent Committee -- Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

Dr. David Sciarretta – Executive Director of AEACS, dsciarretta@aeacs.org

Barb Robinson – Principal of MS, brobinson@aeacs.org

Catherine McCullough – MS Parent Communications, aeacmsparents@gmail.com

1. MS Parent Committee –Catherine McCullough
	1. **Staff Teacher Appreciation Week (STAW)** May 3-6 THIS WEEK – The activities below have been confirmed. Typically, AEA has celebrated W-F. However, this year, Teacher’s Day is actually Tues 5/3 so the MS Parent Committee will start on Tuesday this year. See below for tentative schedule. Parent volunteers are still needed for Weds potluck and Friday Smoothie Bar!
		1. Tues 5/3 – Maritza arranged with Kai/Food for Thought Café (FFT) to provide coffee & brownies were delivered in the morning to the Staff Lounge. Was a hit!
		2. Weds 5/4 – Terri Oelrich is planning an all-staff luncheon @ES comprised of parent donations of dishes and desserts (like last year). There was a SignUpGenius link and luncheon was a success!
		3. Thurs 5/5 – White plush robes will be distributed by students to each staff. We will be wrapping these gifts w/ribbon & name tags the Weds before (4/27). Any help would be greatly appreciated as we have 53 gives of larger size this year ☺. See Catherine McCullough aeacmsparents@gmail.com if you’re willing and able!
		4. Fri 5/6 – Smoothie Bar at lunchtime (like Valentines’ Day celebration). Fruit and pastries donations will be accepted. Look for an email on this soon! ☺
		5. Gift certificates to both Principal Robinson and Executive Director Sciarretta were donated by parent Hillari Hamilton, for a chiropractor treatment and massage
	2. **8th Grade Graduation Committee** – A sub-committee of several 8th grade parents met on Friday, April 22 (8am). Parents from ALL GRADES are welcome to help on day of event for food set up! ☺ This is especially suggested for those 6th & 7th grade parents who look to help plan their child’s year. It’s a great way to know what to expect. Please let Catherine know you’re available to help – aeacmsparents@gmail.com.
	3. **Fro-Yo Weds** by Fiji Yogurt have begun almost EVERY Weds after school release to raise $$ for MS Parent Fund. This helps fund Staff & Teacher Appreciation week, as well as 8th Grade Graduation activities. Frozen yogurt is sold for $3 w/topping and 20% goes back to AEA! Remind your kids! \*Occasionally, Thomas/Fiji has schedule conflicts and won’t make it, like today unfortunately.
	4. **YE Gifts for the teachers** were discussed. Movie tickets and popcorn sets are being investigated. UltraStar Cinemas have discounted tickets, Catherine will investigate. Manuela Seidl is looking into popcorn containers for a nice presentation. This should be decided by next month’s mtg, June 1.
	5. Take notice we have a new and improved **MS Parent Committee page on the school website** under the Parents drop down menu! Great news, we now have filled the MS Parent Communications position. Most importantly, at the moment there is still one **open position on the MS Parent Committee** – the **Teacher Birthday Coordinator position** is still open. See link here on the MS Parent Committee page of website: <http://www.aeacms.org/parent-committee/> Here are the folks who have stepped up to volunteer for MS Parent Leadership roles for next year:

**FOAEA MS Parent Representative**: Rebecca Bennett, reb@merzweb.org

**AEACMS Parent Communications**: Lisa Griffiths, lisalaynegriffiths@gmail.com

**Asst to Parent Communications & FOAEA MS Rep**: Kathi Blocher, kblocher@alum.mit.edu

**Parent Ambassador Program Co-Chairs**: Monta Briant, monta@babysignlanguage.net & Dawn Martin, dawn.s.martin@gmail.com

**MS Teacher Wish List Coordinator**: Kina Thackray, varykinathackray@yahoo.com & Amy Lanners, amylanners@yahoo.com

**MS Used Uniform Sale Coordinators**: Kina Thackray, varykinathackray@yahoo.com & Amy Lanners, amylanners@yahoo.com

* 1. **MS Parent Committee Meetings** are typically held just prior to the Pastries w/the Principals meetings monthly (8am start). All MS Parents are encouraged to come! Items discussed include plans to support AEA teachers w/birthdays, events, Holiday Lunch, Staff/Teacher Appreciation Week, and year-end activities such as 8th Grade Graduation and teacher gifts. We need help! **Next meeting will be held June 1 at the MS Campus** – plan to drop your MS students off a little early and head over to our Parent Committee meeting at 8am, before PWP meeting starts at 8:30. Thank you!
1. Executive Director - Dr. David Sciarretta
2. **Important Calendar Dates (both schools):**

5/5 **Friends of AEA** Board meeting @MS @6pm (open to the public)

5/7 **Annual Cake Auction & Chili Cookoff** @MS 1-4pm (come enjoy the Beer Garden!) See SignUpGenius link to participate or volunteer: http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e48a9ab238-cake1

5/10 **Board of Trustees** meeting @MS @4:30pm (6pm Parent Forum open to the public)

5/24 **School Site Council** meeting @MS @4:15pm

5/30 Memorial Day – **NO SCHOOL**

6/4 Annual **Auction Gala** @USD Hahn Pavilion

1. Enrollment Options office had a new staff member who mistakenly did not flag 8th grade graduating AEA students for **matriculation into SDHS-IS** under the informal agreement that has been in place. However, once this was determined a phone call was place and the problem was resolved.
2. **Elementary Site Modernization** has been approved preliminarily, and goes to final School Board approval at their June meeting. Once formally approved, the design development process will begin for approximately one year.
3. MS Principal - Barb Robinson
4. **List of Upcoming Events @MS**:

5/6 **8th Grade** **Graduation pictures**

5/9 **Smarter Balance Testing** – students will be tested in Math and English first, then other courses - one test each day, for 90 min in the morning and will span over four weeks so the students are not overwhelmed with testing. Math & Spanish are pre-assessments only. Official results will not take place until next year. (More on this below)

5/20 **Progress reports will be posted.**

5/26-30 40 students will depart for **German Exchange** program.

6/3 Deadline for **8th Grade Graduation Speech** and **National Anthem** try-outs.

6/23 **8th Grade Harbor Cruise**

6/24 **8th Grade Graduation** @8:30am – 6th & 7th grade level parents are welcome and needed to help the day of the event! See Catherine, aeacmsparents@gmail.com

1. Other School Highlights**:**
	1. Higher level Math students will be given the opportunity to be tested (not mandatory) for the **MAP (Measure Academic Performance)** test soon – and will be offered in the afternoon and is available to all incoming 6th graders as well.
	2. New Assembly Bill has just passed that **mandates high schools to assess students in Math by summer before starting 9th grade** in order to be properly placed in the right level math class in HS. Also, part of this bill is to mandate a reassessment at 30 days into the school year to be sure the student is properly placed. AEACMS is using “Integrated Math” and does not accelerate advanced students, but rather gives them enrichment to deepen their understanding and keep them challenged and give them strong foundations before moving forward.
	3. **8th Grade German assessments** were happening this week. Students should have come home with a letter with recommended placement at SDHS-IS since Course Selection is scheduled for Sat 5/7 at the HS. AEA has already hired new German teacher for next school year that will be shared with SDHS-IS.
	4. **Spanish teachers have also created assessments** for 8th grade students for HS placement. Barb mentions they have made improvements on elevating reading and writing in Spanish.
	5. **LCAP –** Local Control Accountability Plan: Administration invited parents to give feedback on school process and procedures. This plan is how schools are to receive their funding. It helps to establish goals, measure these goals, and evaluate. A copy of the finished internal report was distro at the meeting and is available through Barb Robinson (brobinson@aeacs.org).
	6. **Annual Auction Gala 6/4 –** **Masquerade theme @USD Hahn Pavilion**
		1. Donations still needed! Forms are available on the [www.foaea.org](http://www.foaea.org) website, Gala page
		2. Photographs of registered parents will take place next week. Registration must be complete by Sunday evening for child to be photographed.
		3. If a family is not able to attend, but would like to help/support, it is encouraged to make a monetary donation or sponsor a teacher.
		4. Rebecca Bennett is looking for volunteers for the day of the event. Email reb@merzweb.org

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