Middlebrook PTA Meeting

May 15, 2014

1. Call to Order – Middlebrook School @ 9am
2. Approval of April 2014 Minutes
3. Principal’s Report – Maria Coleman
   1. On Friday, May 9, Middlebrook School was recognized by Governor Dannel Malloy and Commissioner of Education Stefan Pryor for exceptional participation in the Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge, 2013. Three seventh grade students were selected by their teams to represent Middlebrook School at the awards ceremony in Hartford. Katie Greer, Billy Ronk, and Ryan Wood accompanied Dean Nancy Hasenauer and Instructional Leader for Language Arts Chris Markley to the event.
   2. Middlebrook School was also recently recognized by the State Department of Education as a Connecticut School of Distinction for its high performance on the 2013 CMT.
   3. SBAC testing is nearly complete for all eighth grade students. 6th and 7th graders successfully completed their experience in previous weeks. 8th graders are nearing the end of their testing. We will be conducting a student survey to learn more about their experiences taking the assessments.
   4. Last night, we completed our spring concert season with the sixth grade spring concert and art exhibit. Over the past three weeks, parents from all grade levels have enjoyed the music of all our students. I would like to recognize the music and art departments for their preparations leading up to each event.
   5. We are conducting our school climate survey for parents, students, and staff. This survey will help us learn more about how we can continuously improve Middlebrook School.
   6. After discussing the PTA’s request to have four square and basketball lines painted in the rear upper lot with our buildings and grounds director, we have confirmation that this projected should be completed for the 2014-2015 school year.
   7. Maria presented Savet with an orchid for thanks.
4. Teacher Representative – Luisa Nanos

*8R*

* Working hard on team service project of restoring memorial sites on Middlebrook's school grounds.
* Gearing up for science field trip to Lake Compounce in two weeks.
* Organizing for all-team Project Zero unit called "The Next Best Thing"

*8Y*

* The RWW students will be closing out the year writing their own short stories.
* 8Y students will begin reading Hiroshima this week.
* The Spanish students are learning how to read recipes in Spanish and how to use informal commands.
* The French students will write a movie review and learn about music in francophone countries.

*8G*

* Looking forward to Lake Compounce, Holiday Hill, 8th grade dinner dance, Soaring Ahead, etc.
* Also, we just finished SBAC testing today.

*6R*

* Fully immersed in our Independent Student Project - preparing for Closing House
* Practicing plays for our June 6th Greek Festival
* Celebrating a wonderfully successful trip to New Haven - Art Gallery and Thali Too

*6Y*

* The students raised $4,280 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation during the Walk-A-Thon service project. A representative from Make-A-Wish spoke to the students about the foundation, how the money will be used, and how grateful she is for all of the students’ fundraising efforts.
* We enjoyed our field trip to the Yale Art Gallery, Yale campus, and Thali Too Indian restaurant. The students’ favorite food was the puffed bread.
* Preparations are underway for the team’s Greco-Roman performance on May 22 and the Gallery of Knowledge exhibition during Closing House on June 3.

*6G*

* This Friday, Six Green students will perform a series of plays in our Greek Theater Festival.
* Next Thursday, a representative from March of Dimes will visit with the team to talk about the charity and express its appreciation for the team's fundraising efforts, which led to a total of $4,875 to support this worthy cause.
* Students are reflecting on their year through the team's Year in Review Project (YIRP); the resulting work will be on display during our closing house on June 3rd.

*7Y*

* All classes are preparing for end of year assessments
* Problems abound as we go from solving the world's problems in the Social Studies model United Nations activities, analyzing conflict in novels individually chosen in English class, and working on our own problems in grammar with some individualized grammar work in RWW.
* A final ARK - Acts of Random Kindness - activity will no doubt make a mark on our own lives as well as the lives of others.

*7R*

* Students will employ all of the strategies learned this year to read and analyze a new piece of literature to exhibit their skills in understanding and appreciating what they read.
* World Geography: Students will soon be starting the UN unit about Europe.
* RWW: Students are working on studying and presenting about people throughout history who have had positive influences on humanity. This is really an author study done in small groups.
* Science: Students will still be working on human respiration and excretion and then will move on to cell reproduction (mitosis and meiosis) and finally human reproduction.
* World Language: Students will be studying the preterite tense as they recall past vacations and what they did during them.
* Math 7: Students are studying angle properties and straight lines.
* Advanced Math 7: Students are starting a unit on volume and surface area of solids.
* Algebra: Students are in the middle of a unit on the Pythagorean Theorem and the distance formula.

**Officer Reports:**

1. President’s Report – Savet Constantine

* Approval for moving ahead with the playground was granted
* Thank you for all the help and desserts for the Teacher Appreciation Week.
* Also thank you to Eric from the Village Gourmet for providing the Chinese food for the Teacher’s luncheon.
* Last Monday May 12, the proposals for Gifts and Grants were presented.
* SBAC –surveys the children on curriculum, technology and other variable that we can have an impact on.
* Playground needs few improvements tether balls and maintenance could replace backboards. Request 1k.
* PTA approved-Maria Motioned for 1k, Janel requested vote.

Vice President-Pam Hickey

·        Vote

Treasurer – Maria Wilcox

* Teacher funds –reminders sent.
* $1,200 unspent.

Parent-At-Large – Stacy Crameri

* Town Budget was approved.
* Miller Driscoll vote will be Sept 23-27 in fall
* Presented Savet with plant from exec board

1. Adjournment