

PAC – Parent Advisory Council

10-11-17

In Attendance: Mark Cappel, Mary Schell, Dawn Humphrey, Laura Shansey, Jennifer Patridge, Melissa Batchelor, Susan Hatfield, Ruth Waggoner, Jan Christopher, Lori Williams and Andrea Harner

- Introduction of Mary Schell-
 - Mary shared her background work experiences and her plans as the new finance director
- Mr. Cappel explained our district finances with regards to what we have received in funding and what the State is taking back in funding.
 - We are really sorting through our needs versus our wants.
 - Good news is the new funding formula has been set and that will bring more stability for years to come.
 - We are currently in a critical state and we DO NOT want to cut any extracurricular programs for students.
 - Teachers are currently working without a contract. Everyone has been very patient while trying to sort out our finances.
 - If the State had paid what they were supposed to when they were supposed to we would have another \$12,000,000 - \$14,000,000 in our budget.
 - The question was asked what the PTG's can do to help.
 - Mr. Cappel suggested that if you could keep in touch with the teachers on things they need to help supplement what we may be pulling back off of right now that would be very helpful.
 - Our sports teams are doing so well. Two years ago our football team went 1-8, last year we went 0-9 and this year we are hoping to make playoffs.
 - The Paint the Town Red promotion was fantastic.
 - It was mentioned for homecoming the senior posters were made for football *and Marching 100*, which was nice.
 - Also mentioned, we cannot underestimate what our extracurricular and feeder program extracurricular are bringing to the table. Seems to be an increase in participation at AMS due to the draw of our programs.
 - October 20th is Principal Appreciation Day.

BUILDING REPORTS:

AHS:

- Jacob Pullen got best soloist at competition. We came in 4th overall in Springfield.

North:

- Ethan, a 5th grader, collected over \$300.00 to donate books for Houston hurricane victims.
- Project 3rd day article stemmed a lot of interest. Looking for more volunteers.
- October 18th - Family Reading Night and Trick or Treat
- October 24th - Blood Drive (5th grade student council event)
- 70 kids on Green Team (promote recycle and gardening)
 - It was commented by a parent that Mr. Johnson (North Principal) is so very positive and enthusiastic and is good to teachers and kids.
 - Huge running redbirds team this year as well.
 - Barb Erwin berwin@altonschools.org may be a good contact if you are interested in starting the Project 3rd Day at your school.

West/Gilson:

- Just finished BoBo's fundraiser and made \$10,000.00
- We had fall fest two weeks ago.
- October 25th - Ice Cream truck for students with no referrals
- October 23-27 is our book fair with Family night on 25th

Miscellaneous Parent Comments:

- Kids seem to love the new Choral Director at AHS, Mr. Newberry.
- Thanks to the school district for working with the Riverbend Teen Center.
- Fence at East is on hold but monitoring that closely.
- It would be great to see the AMS and AHS stagger their dismissal by 10-15 minutes.
- Like that 2nd grade move back to LJ. Last year was a hard year at East and this year is amazing. Drop off and pick up is great!
- Parents are very happy with Parent Teacher Conferences are in October and not November.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 9, 2017