# **VL Murray PTO Meeting**

Date | time 1/30/2020 7:00 PM Location Library

## **Agenda**

* **Welcome /Introductions:** Carrie Cooper (PTO president), Lindley Stakem (VP PTO), Elizabeth (Treasurer), Ellen Patterson (3rd grade teacher), Elena Tuerk, Tania Thawley, Ruei-Jen Abraham-Fan, Alison Dwier-Selden (Principal), Allie Hill, Heidi Stone (PTO Secretary)
* **Principal's Report:** 
  + We are in school 5 days a week until March 2!!
  + Rudy Acharya was the winner of the school Spelling Bee. The Division Spelling Bee on Feb 12 at the county office building. Congratulations Rudy, and welcome to Murray!
  + School wide morning meeting is tomorrow. Third grade is hosting.
  + Jump Rope for heart is coming up on Feb. 12. Check Back Pack Mail!! Jump Rope for Heart will take place during PE.
  + The portal will open for report cards Monday, Feb 3. We are in the second (and likely last) year of the science report card pilot. Therefore, you will receive a print copy of your child’s science report card. This relates to the implementation of new science standards being different for K-4 and 5.
    - We will seek feedback from parents for final revisions. Feedback will be summarized and submitted to the central office.
  + Winter Illnesses: Illness has been mostly isolated to preschool (thus far).
  + We had two students submit winning poems in the 2019 Writers Eye Competition.
* **Treasurer’s Report**
  + Starting to think of projects to invest in at the end of the budget year if things stay positive. We are waiting to hear back from special grants.
    - Discussion about possible need for additional picnic tables for different play grounds.
      * Lindley Stakem will reach out to Carla Dodson for information on how the tables from last year are holding up.
  + Discussion around what the line items are on the budget.
  + Merriweather keeps $15K in savings. Henley Middle School keeps $17K.
  + Discussion about what the appropriate amount of savings is for Murray PTO to maintain.
    - **Ideas for utilization of PTO additional funds:**
      * Painting lines on the track.
      * Playground balls: Each classroom🡪 10 balls and a pump for each class (needles).
        + Color coordinated balls by grade.
    - Can we do anything about the stage being so small?
      * We store afterschool supplies near stage.
        + Looking into alternative storage.
        + Under stage storage?
    - Other ideas for end of year spending
      * Astroturf field
      * Light up signage for the front of the school
      * SAND!!!
      * Lamp post down by lower field. Solar?
* **Old business**
  + **Events review** 
    - Cookie Exchange- cancelled
    - Random Row- not well attended
  + M3 price to remain the same for Winter 2020
    - There are scholarships available!
  + **Logo Development Update**
    - Standardization of school logos and calendars is coming soon.
      * Trying to communicate with Lorenzo Dickerson (Web Curator for county) regarding guidelines.
      * Looked at multiple samples from freelance.com project that Lindley Stakem organized.
        + Thank you Lindley for taking on this project!!!
* New business
  + **Upcoming Dates**
    - Bingo Night, March 6, snow date, March 13 – start donations soon
      * We are going to use toys instead of stuffed animals this year.
        + **Trying to collect 150 donation items.**

**Examples: playground balls, Barbies, craft sets**

* + - * Last year big prize was blue tooth headphones. Looking for idea for big winning item for this year.
      * Each bingo card is $5.00
        + Black out: Cards are $1.00
      * Will send out a survey to see what types of games that students and parents want to play.
      * 5th grade does concessions: food, drinks, snacks etc.
    - Talent show – March 20 – Chair is Tania Thawley: Update coming soon!!
      * Thank you Tania for volunteering to lead this important event!!
  + **Parent Council:**
    - Next meeting- President and Treasurer are invited to next meeting (as well as other parents).
      * Feb. 19, 2020 at Agnor Hurt
  + **Spring Family Picnic (Lindley Stakem)**
    - Last year we earned $1000!!
    - Dates:
      * Thursday evenings (this is when SOLs start)
      * We have requested a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday
        + Late April- Early May
  + **Smart Phone Policy** 
    - Does the county have a policy for cell phone use?
      * Middle schools have a policy: Kids can bring cellphones but they must stay in their lockers during the day.
      * Transportation does not ban phones/technology county wide.
      * 5th graders that are using Tic Tock (app)
        + How do we create a positive culture around this? How do we prevent social challenges that come with social media?
        + Elena Tuerk will see if Cindy Payne can offer advice or help.
        + Elena Tuerk will be spear heading an interest group for trying to create culture of limiting social media/screen time. Back up/aid: Allie Hill.
  + **Classroom Communications**
    - How can we develop stronger relationships amongst parents to address issues that come up in the classroom/grades?
      * + Classroom Parent Lead/ Parent Classroom Liaison
        + Initiating parent communications
  + **Party Parade:** Working on several other options for parent only social events. Times/Dates and costs are coming!
    - Mindy Foster and Tracy Polk: Fishing Activity at Retriever Run🡪April 19 or 26th (3-6PM)
      * $50 family or $10 per person
      * Is there a cap?
    - Parent Cocktail Party
* **Any other updates** 
  + Teacher needs? Ellen Patterson
  + Call for Executive Council and Committee Chairs for 2020-2021 will begin soon!

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| **Event** | **Target Audience** | **Location** | **Date** | **Start Time** | **Fundraising** | **Notes** |
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| February | | | | | | |
| Cocktail Party | Parents | TBD | Saturday, | 6 PM | $50 pp | Potential hosts or winery |
| Dad's Night Out | Dads | Star or Pro | Mon, February 03, | 7 PM |  |  |
| March | | | | | | |
| Pi Night pizzas and Math games | Family | Murray Cafeteria | Friday, March 13, | 7 PM | $15 pp |  |
| Mom's Night Out | Moms | TBD | Wed March 25, | 7 PM |  |  |