# **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** |
|  |
| 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 |  |  |