

February 9, 2016

Exec:

Ideas for what to do with extra money from auction:

- More chrome books
- Front yard: stone benches and pavers that wrap around to the bike rack area
- Fulfilling the other grants that we didn't have the money for earlier in the year: 3rd grade rugs, human development videos
- Backlit marquee sign

We need to pay Lifetouch another \$500 for yearbooks.

Question about Camp Wyman funds – parents are charged \$185, where does the \$4500 that PTO contributes go?

Nancy will contact the district math coordinator, Susan Bergman, about presenting at the next meeting.

Meeting was called to order by PTO President Tim Halls.

Dr. Arnold

- Thank you to everyone who participated in the auction. It was a great community building event.
- The board recommended Dr. John Simpson as the new superintendent.

Kathy Ecker presented on the Title I Reading Program

Click here for presentation:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1d6aBC1uX9wf7u2NwmXLXQD8PB5mhCqCxhawE1AQYEv4/edit#slide=id.p>

Parents were asked to read through the parent reading compact letter and Avery's parent involvement plan and provide feedback. The letter, plan and feedback form are at the end of the minutes if additional parents would like to participate.

Upcoming Events:

- March 2: Blood Drive: Joe Moore is coordinating it. Set up will begin at 1:00. The blood drive will go from 2:00 – 7:00. Volunteers are needed. The children of parents who donate will receive a slap watch from the Red Cross.
- March 31: Family Book Club: The books *Frindle* along with directions and a reading schedule should be coming home with students this week. Invitations to the event will be sent home the week before spring break.
- April 8-9: Avery Play: see All Star News for updates and information.
- May 6: Razzmatazz: Greg Davis promoted Razzmatazz. Sign-ups for acts ends March 25th. See All Star News for updates and information. Stacy Giles will have a bulletin board up with additional information.

Tim Halls:

- The PTO executive board is in need of a Treasurer next year. Please email Christy Vogl if you're interested in this position. Christy.vogl@sbcglobal.net

- The Dine out nights have been a big success, especially DQ. Dr. Arnold will send out texts the afternoon of the dine out nights to remind families to participate.
- We budgeted that we would get \$25,000 from the auction and there might be a surplus
 - Assuming we have \$4000-\$8000 extra what should we spend it on?
 - More technology, one-to-one would be the goal (a chromebook per student)
 - Fulfill the rest of the teacher grants
 - The attending parents and teachers felt like a backlit marquee sign was not a priority

The next PTO meeting is April 12 at 7:00 pm in the library.

See below for Title I Reading Program letter and parent feedback form. Return to the office for Kathy Ecker.

September 14, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians of _____,

My name is Kathy Ecker, and I am a Reading Specialist and Title One Teacher that serves First and Second students at Avery Elementary. I hope that your child has had a great start to the 2015-2016 school year.

During the past few weeks, I have been listening to students read, administering reading assessments, reviewing results of school-wide reading benchmarks, and talking to classroom teachers about the students in their classrooms. Based on reading assessment results and teacher recommendations, your child has qualified to receive reading support services this year. This means that I will work with your child on reading skills and strategies during the regular school hours. This is in addition to the reading instruction taught by the classroom teacher. The intent of this additional reading instruction is to aid your child in making greater reading progress.

Your involvement in your child's reading progress is also very important. Children who read at home in addition to reading at school get more practice reading and more exposure to new words. As a result, these children make greater reading progress than those children who read only at school. For this reason, we ask that you read with your child each day for at least 20 minutes.

Children should spend most of their time reading books that are "just right". "Just right" books have some tricky or new words and ideas but not so many that the fluency is interrupted or the child is unable to understand the book. When reading "just right" books with your child, you may want to practice shared reading by taking turns reading parts aloud or choral reading by reading portions aloud with your child. Some children may prefer to read "just right" books silently, asking for your assistance only at tricky parts. Whichever method you choose, talking with your child about his or her book is important and will help you to determine how well your child understands it. If you would like help selecting books for your child, please either ask your child's classroom teacher or myself.

Thank you for being an active participant in helping your child grow as a reader and for supporting Avery's efforts by signing and returning the attached form promptly. If you have any questions, please e-mail me at ecker.kathy@wgmail.org.

In your child's best interest,
Kathy Ecker

Reading Specialist and Title One Teacher

Home and School Compact

Please sign this form indicating your understanding of the Title One reading support services that will be provided to your child during the 2015-2016 school year.

I, Kathy Ecker, the Reading Specialist and Title One teacher at Avery Elementary will provide reading support services to _____ and keep his or her parents informed of the child's reading progress.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I, _____, the parent/guardian of _____ understand that Title One reading support services will be provided to my child during the 2015-2016 school year. Also, I assure that my child reads at home at least 20 minutes each day.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Involvement Plan

District committees with Parent Representatives:

- Strategic Planning/Federal Programs Committee
- Curriculum Coordinating Council
- Achievement Gap Committee
- SSD/504 Program Evaluation
- Webster Groves School District/SSD Parent Advisory Council
- Facilities
- Key Communicators
- Legislative Committee
- School PTO
- Board of Education

Methods for communication and collaboration between home and school:

- Parent phone calls
- Phone blasts
- Progress reports
- Email
- Report Cards
- Specific school related activities
- Social Media: Avery Twitter and Avery Facebook
- Weekly School/TTO newsletters via MailChimp

Other Types of Parent Involvement

- Parents participate in problem-solving team meetings as needed
- Parents participate in IEP/Rtl meetings as needed
- Parents participate in conferences as needed
- Room parents
- Volunteer in school and classroom activities, lunch, and recess

Calendar of Family Activities

- see list

Parent Conferences

- PreK-6 – week of November 9th
- PreK-12 – week of March 7th

Title One Presentation

February 9, 2016

Survey

- Parent-School Compact Letter – Strengths:

- Parent-School Compact Letter – Suggestions for improvement:

- Parent Involvement Plan – Strengths:

- Parent Involvement Plan – Suggestions for improvement:

- Suggestions for future school literacy events: