



## Deer Path Middle School APT Board Meeting

### November 14, 2017 Minutes

**Attendees** - Deborah Bradley, Kim Campbell, Tom Cardamone, Conrad Christensen, Heather Clements, Renée DeVore, Mike Field, Tish Houston, Ann Kiesling, Sushama Krishnaswamy, Beth Laufenberg, Becky Nagel, Heike Regner, Julie Sakici, Alyssa Sinclair, Umang Singh, Heather Strong, Laurie Whisler, Desiree Witte

#### **Administrator Reports:**

##### DPME - Tom Cardamone, Principal, and Michael Kroll, Asst. Principal

- Last month Mr. Cardamone and others from the administration were at a conference in New York. The conference focused on how the instructional workshop model can be embedded across subjects and not solely used in LA. Mr. Cardamone visited a school in the New York area where teachers had done this.
- Thank you to all parents who helped with the delicious dinner on the evening of conferences, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Cultural Fair, and all the wonderful Halloween Parties. It was great to see parents involved and connecting with the school community.
- December 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade Concert Dates - Dec 12<sup>th</sup> Orchestra and Dec 14<sup>th</sup> Chorus
- Report cards will be distributed to all students in homeroom on Friday Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>.
- DPM will be holding for the first time a Talent Show! Auditions took place last week and the students are busy getting ready for the performances. There will be an evening performance on Dec 1<sup>st</sup> and a performance during the day for the students to attend on Dec 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Award winning author Shelley Pearsall will be visiting DPME to make presentations to the 5th and 6th graders on December 6 and 7. The APT has arranged for students to purchase autographed copies of Ms. Pearsall's books and the Lake Forest Bookstore has generously provided a discount. Thank you to the Spirit of 67 for funding this wonderful experience for the students and the APT for coordinating the visit. DPME looks forward to welcoming Ms. Pearsall!
- Mr. Kroll, Assistant Principal at DPME, has been presented with an incredible opportunity in a family-owned business, which will lead to his relocation and departure at the end of the 2017 - 2018 school year. Over the past five years, Mr. Kroll has shown himself to be a passionate, thoughtful, kind, and innovative leader within our school and the D67 community as a whole. Mr. Kroll has had a significant impact on our students, staff, and parents within the community and has challenged us to think differently in the way we support all students. For us, this is a loss, but we are all excited for him and all of his future opportunities. Mr. Kroll is irreplaceable friend to the DPM community, and we will miss him greatly.
- ELO Day - The first of two Extended Learning Opportunity days will be held on Tuesday, November 21st. The students were given an opportunity to choose from a large variety of classes to take on this day. They will receive their final schedule on Tuesday morning. Everyone is looking forward to a great day of excitement and extended learning opportunities for all!

### DPMW - Renée DeVore, Principal, and Mike Field, Asst. Principal

- ELO Day - DPMW will also hold the first of its two Extended Learning Opportunity days on Tuesday, November 21st. Students choose from 32 offerings including some field trips for classes to take on this day. It should be a great day for all!
- H2O (formerly Haskins Center) is finally all completed with the last of the furniture having recently arrived. It looks amazing and the students are all excited to use it!
- The Spark Lab is a low tech space located within H2O. It is a creative space offering students the chance to create. Recently a group of 7<sup>th</sup> graders built something as low tech as a cardboard fort. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade social studies classes are coming to the Spark Lab to build colonies. Long term the hope is that the space can be made larger as now it can hold approximately 10 students at a time.
- Last year DPM had its first Robotics Team. This year the turnout is even larger and DPM has both a Varsity and Junior Varsity team. The students are really excited about their projects and are often at school at 6:45am to begin work! The two DPM teams will travel to Carl Sandburg School on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> to compete. Good luck DPM Robotics Teams!
- DPMW 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade homeroom classes will start to use this time differently going forward. Ms. DeVore has worked with the teachers to try to make this time more productive for the students. One example is each Friday teachers work with individuals and/or small groups of students on setting goals. The teachers will follow up and have a dialogue each trimester so the students also get into the habit of tracking their progress in terms of meeting their goals. This is another way students and teachers can connect aside from just the typical classroom setting.
- 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students recently took the Gallup survey, which identified students strengths. Feedback was given to all students about their top strengths. It is important to let students know their strengths as they typically are primarily told their areas for growth. It is also positive for them to hear what they are good at.
- Jan 17<sup>th</sup> LFHS is hosting a Curriculum Night for 8<sup>th</sup> graders. This is an opportunity for parents to see LFHS classrooms and learn more about the curriculum. More info to come in the Friday Flyer.
- Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> and Feb 5<sup>th</sup> counselors from LFHS will be at DPM to help 8<sup>th</sup> grade students with their Freshman course selection. More info to come.

### **Officer Reports:**

#### President - Beth Laufenberg

- The APT nominations process is now underway for the 2018-2020 Term. Julie Sakici is the APT Nominating Committee Chair. Nominations are now being solicited for the following District 67 APT Executive Board positions to serve during the 2018-20 school years:
  - APT Executive Board Vice-President
  - APT Executive Board Recording Secretary
  - APT President, Cherokee School
  - APT President, Sheridan School
- Please note that nominees MUST have prior experience serving on an APT Board (or as a Room Parent) in order to be considered. Also, only parents from a local school can submit a nomination for that building's APT President.

- If you would like to nominate someone (including yourself), you may do so in one of the following ways:
  - Download the 2018-20 APT Nominations Form from DPM's website. Complete the form and email it to [aptsakici@gmail.com](mailto:aptsakici@gmail.com).
  - Complete the form and mail/drop off to Julie Sakici, 1850 Surrey Ln., Lake Forest, IL 60045
  - Complete the form online via a link from DPM's website.
  - Contact Julie via email at [aptsakici@gmail.com](mailto:aptsakici@gmail.com) or by calling 847-615-1761 to submit possible candidate names.
- The final deadline for submissions is Wednesday, January 3, 2018.

#### Programs – Julie Schwan

- A slot has been reserved for DPM Families to volunteer at **Feed My Starving Children** on Saturday 12/9 from 11:30am - 1:30pm (13 spots still open). DPM Families did this last year and all had a wonderful time helping others and getting to know more friends within the DPM community. Last year there was a great turnout.

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### Art Fair - Tara Eggers, Mary Kay Hanlon, Nicole Korczak, Vicki Stach

- The dates for this year have been confirmed as follows:
  - 5/6 art collection in Cube: Tues, Jan 23 and Wed, Jan 24 from 7:45 - 9:00 a.m.
  - 7/8 art collection in Haskins: Thurs, January 25 and Fri, Jan 26 from 7:45 - 9:00 a.m.
- Art will be displayed in the Cube and Haskins from January 26 through the middle of February
- Before Winter Break, the committee plans to accomplish the following:
  - Reserve rooms for collection/display with Mary Mercer
  - Reserve sandwich boards with Laura Whisler
  - Update Registration Form
  - Inventory/order ribbons
  - Secure judges
  - Promote Art Fair in the Friday Flyer, starting in December

##### BOE Monthly Report - Dez Witte

- Link to minutes and board packets is available at <http://dpmapt.weebly.com/BOE.html>

##### Care and Concern - Kim Robb

- The Yates family recently lost their mom, Lora Yates. They family included an 8th grade son and daughter. The Care and Concern Committee put together a basket of grab n go snacks as well as gift cards to local restaurants (Chipotle, Subway and Dominoes) for the family. A sympathy card from DPM APT was also included. The basket was dropped off at their house.

Class of 2018 Activities - Mary Kay Hanlon (Lindsey Chabraja, Julile Benda Helms, and Sushama Krishnaswamy)

- Information relating to all things Class of 2018 can be found here: <http://dpmapt.weebly.com/class-of-2018.html>.
- Community Service Day Wrap-Up -
  - Event went smoothly -- received positive feedback from several organizations
  - Received good press coverage in Lake Forester, Lake Forest Leader, and Daily North Shore
  - Working with Rotary Club to pay invoice for buses
  - Still need to create a "thermometer" to track service hours
  - Proposed improvements for next year:
    - Prepare general overview/history/quotes for media in advance
    - Check with Janice Patterson re: use of student names/parent permission for quotes and photos
    - Make sure organizations have enough work for the kids to fill 2 hours (or adjust size of groups accordingly)
    - Send "save the date" in the springtime (will be handled by Class of 2019 Activities committee. Date will be October 12, 2018.)
- Budget - An email was sent to collect optional Graduation Activities fees from families who did not pay during registration.
- Graduation Party - The APT Committee will recruit a student committee after Winter Break. The plan is to hold a pizza lunch and drive awareness via morning announcements and Edmodo.

Fine Arts - Maureen Fitzgerald, Laura Cushing

- Visiting author
  - Shellye Pearsall will present to the 5th and 6th graders at DPME on December 6th and 7th. Ms. Pearsall was requested by the DPME LA teachers as she presented at DPM years ago and did a wonderful job. She has written several award winning books. Parents are invited to purchase Ms. Pearsall's book using the book order form included in the Friday Flyer email newsletter and posted on the District website.
  - Jack Gantos will present to the 7th and 8th graders at DPMW on January 11th and 12th. Mr. Gantos was recommend by Ms. Susan Milsk, the District's Director of Teaching and Learning.. Mr. Gantos has written award winning books for all age groups and is a nationally recognized speaker. DPMW parents will also have an opportunity to purchase Mr. Gantos books closer to the time of his presentations.
- Fine arts

The following shows have been generously funded by Spirit grants for DPM:

  - 5th grade-Tales of Olympus; March 16
  - 6th grade-Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe; week of April 16
  - 7/8 grades-50 States in 50 minutes; tentatively shows 8:45-9:45and 2:30-3:30 on Jan 22nd (Mon.) or Feb 22nd (Thurs.)

### S.P.A. (Student and Parent Awareness) - Heather Clements, Kate Rappel, Alyssa Sinclair, Umang Singh

- Information can also be found here: <http://www.dpmapt.weebly.com/spa.html>
- A recent survey sent to parents regarding suggested topics for speaker series resulted with the #1 topic being “Technology” and the #2 topic being “Anxiety In Children”. In January Dr. Fine, school psychologist, will talk to parents regarding this topic. Alyssa, Heather, Emilie Correa, Dr. Weimer, Croya and Lead plan to meet in the next two months to brainstorm ideas for speaker to address technology, and other issues seen at the middle school.
- In February 2018, the Emotional Wellness Committee will host a “Family Game Night”. More information to come.
- Important dates Coming up:
  - Nov 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm West Campus/Admin Building. Local experts consisting a college admissions, HS counselor and middle school social worker discussing the book How to Raise and Adult before author discussion in December.
  - Nov 10<sup>th</sup> @ 12:55 LFHS auditorium Celebrates Veteran’s Day. Open to everyone!
  - Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm LFHS auditorium Neuro-Behavioral Center for Adolescence first of a 2 part series on Executive Functioning
  - Dec 4<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm LFHS auditorium How to Raise and Adult author visit.
  - Jump Start To 5<sup>th</sup> Grade - In January the committee will be actively seeking parents to sit on the panel.

### Spirit of 67 Liaison – Kimberly Carris (Deb Bradley, Katy Manly)

- Information can also be found here: <http://www.dpmapt.weebly.com/spirit-of-67.html>
- Thanks-4-Giving Inaugural Appreciation Luncheon - THANK YOU to everyone who helped make the inaugural Thanks-4-Giving Appreciation Luncheon a huge success! The event raised over \$55,000 and this would not have been possible without all of those who attended, donated, and/or volunteered. The D67 students will directly benefit from your generous support.
- As a further incentive this year, the Spirit is holding a friendly competition between all five of our schools (Cherokee, Everett, Sheridan, DPME & DPMW) to see which school has the highest level of donor participation. The winning school will receive a special celebration at the end of the year!

Donor Family Participation Contest results as of 11/14:

- Cherokee: 49.3%
  - Everett: 41.6%
  - Sheridan: 52.1%
  - DPM E&W: 43.3%
- Home Tour will be held May 10, 2018. The Home Tour Chairs: Erica Granda, Meg Lynch, Lisa Florjanic, are currently in the process of securing homes for this Spring event. If you have any leads, please contact them.
  - Thank you to all Spirit donor families. This support makes a lasting impact on every student, in every school, every day. Please visit our website (<http://www.spiritof67foundation.org>) to learn more about becoming an annual donor.

Staff Appreciation – Anna Theodore (Rachel Baker, Sophia Koliatsis, Sushama Krishnaswamy, Lisa Lamb, Amanda Lamberti, Kristen Lee, Nicole Mangiaracina)

- Information can also be found here: <http://www.dpmapt.weebly.com/staff-appreciation.html>.
- The Chinese themed conference dinner seemed to be very popular with teachers and staff. Thank you to Patti Fleser for letting us use Haskins Center for this event. Conference rooms A & B were very convenient for teachers to eat in and mingle. There seemed to be a smaller number of teachers attending this event than usual - approx 90 or so came to eat. This raises the question for future events about how many people to purchase catered food for. If an approximately number is known ahead of time, the committee can plan accordingly when ordering food, so as to avoid purchase too much (and allocate the funds for other events.)
- The committee is operating with a 25% lower budget than the prior year, so the committee is trying to think as creatively as possible for future events!
- The next Staff Appreciation event will be held on Nov 20th - a Thanksgiving themed event with seasonal treats. Grand Food Center (owned by a former D67 family) provided a generous \$100 gift card. The committee invites contributions of baked goods from APT Board to supplement this event. (Sign up to be sent around at the mtg.) Thanks for helping out if you can!
- Planning is already underway for the December Cookie Walk, and seasonal events in January and February. Donations will be requested for these events via a SignUp.com link that will be in the Friday Flier and on Facebook. Please like the Facebook page and spread the word!
- The committee has been discussing the need for storage. Previously a few cabinets and drawers in the old Haskins Center were allocated to this committee. The committee plans to discuss the situation with Mary Mercer to see if there is extra space somewhere. If the principals have any thoughts they would be greatly appreciated.

**Other Business:**

Vaping - Beth Laufenberg

- There have been questions by parents about a new phenomenon that young people are doing known as “vaping” or “juuling.” Vaping is defined as “inhaling and exhaling the vapor produced by an electronic cigarette or similar device.” A presentation was distributed to parents (see attached) to explain this activity and some known dangers associated with it. Officer Christensen, LF Police Detective and School Resource Officer, also provided information and advice to parents. While vaping is not permitted at school, some students at LFHS have been observed by other students vaping as the device used to do this looks very similar to a USB drive; thus, vaping can often be done easily without being detected. The information provided and discussion was offered as a way to make parents aware of this activity in the interest of starting a dialogue with our children. Since these are relatively new products, there is not sufficient scientific evidence for the statistics about the harmful effects to be incorporated yet into our children’s health classes. We hope parents find this information useful so that this leads to a larger community discussion with the goal of the safety and health of all our children. Please direct any questions to Officer Christenson at (847) 810-3818 or Beth Laufenberg at [beth60045@me.com](mailto:beth60045@me.com). Thank you both for helping to educate parents about things for which we otherwise might be unaware.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> @ CROYA 9:00am**

<http://www.dpmapt.weebly.com>