

January 9th Lava Ridge PTO meeting

Welcome

Ice Breaker (Sarah Swoffer)

Gary and Teacher Updates

- Gary
 - 11% of families have completed the Youth Truth survey so far - be sure to complete it and send back the slip sent home in backpacks on Tuesday to get a prize. Link was in email Monday.
 - This month is the time to explore other school options outside of your normal attendance area ones. (e.g., Realms)
 - No school 31Jan - teachers are completing Progress Reports - to be mailed in early February. Note: name change from 'Report Card' to encourage more of a focus on progress rather than a final report.
 - Next week is the winter clothing drive - community service project for student leaders working with school counselor. Can be gently used or new. Collected at front of school. Donations will be given to Lava Ridge students or other area elementary school students.
 - Gary is always around in the front lobby in the mornings if anyone wants to chat.
- Kindergarten
 - New Expeditionary Learning (EL) unit - being meteorologists, will get to do a Forest Day once new location identified (Skyliners Lodge recently closed).
- First
 - Starting geometry and math, sun/moon/star reading unit with planetarium visitor, and PTO-funded Tower Theatre field trip
- Second
 - Starting paleontology unit, introducing graphs in math, two upcoming field trips - BEAT Finding Nemo performance, Outdoor School day
 - Mr. Caswell is retiring in June
- Third
 - New EL unit on frogs and tadpoles, including some classrooms raising actual tadpoles, hope to tie in PTO-sponsored art lesson, snowglobe-themed writing project, ending adding/subtracting large numbers unit
- Fourth
 - Starting fractions and decimals unit, new EL unit on animal defense mechanisms with science unit tie-in, starting Oregon Trail soon, all classes are going to Bend Science Station and also BEAT Finding Nemo performance, hoping to do a Lava Lands field trip later in the year May/June
- Fifth
 - Attended Blue Flame hip hop artist performance at Tower Theatre with anti-bullying theme (grant-funded), EL unit on rainforest, decimals and fractions in math, student teacher joining one class for rest of year

Update from Katrina on Book Fair and Read-a-thon

- 18 OBOB teams/85 students (more than last year), starting battles next week to prepare for regionals, 419 books read collectively so far. Planning pizza party to finish.
- Average addition of 400 books to elementary school libraries annually, but we're adding 2300 books this year due to Scholastic Book Fair and other efforts of Ms. Bailey's -

particularly nice to be replacing outdated books! Average book age has increased from 1998 to 2006

- Other library improvements have included adding more accessible shelves, graphic novels, leveled reading, and multilingual books
- Second Book Fair upcoming in April

B-I-N-G-O (Sarah Bystrom and Kim)

- February 6th @ 5:30p
- Volunteers Needed - Gary will be the announcer. Please sign up!
- Prize Donations Needed (see Kim or Sarah if you have ideas!)
- Order forms heading out mid month, spread the word
- Fifth grade leaders could help - PTO leadership to get in touch with them
- Social media, website, sandwich board, will all be advertising the event. Consider getting a banner with a date that can be updated each year.
- Purchase of BINGO cards and food/snacks at the event will raise funds

Lion Dash - April 24th (Lindsay Beamer and Sarah Bystrom)

- Targeting shirts for every kiddo again this year
- Corporate Sponsors (due by March 1) - let them know if you have ideas. Looking to amp up the advertising beyond the back of the shirt.
- Sign Up for upcoming volunteer opportunities closer to the date in April - sign up sheets are being circulated in the meeting for anyone interested (further details will come out by email)

Fundraising Update (Sarah Haverly)

- Yum Raisers - going great! Looking for more to schedule in this half of the year.
 - MOD Pizza 21Jan
- Sponsorship opportunities
- \$15k back into the school came from Book Fair & Readathon

Get up and Move/Sign Up break/Grab Upcoming events!