

PTSA General Meeting 2/4/15

QAE Cafeteria 7-9pm

Meeting opened by Amy Janas, PTSA President at 7:07pm.

Amy introduces the QAE staff that is attending the meeting.

- Mikal Kvant motions to allow electronic voting of PTSA items. Heather Anderson seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.
- New Treasurer Candidate Rick North is introduced. He is a K parent with a lot of treasury experience. Jessica Denhez makes a motion to accept Rick North as a co-treasurer. Karen Gigliotti seconds. All approve. Motion passes.
- Amy mentions that a Facilities, Enrichment and Legislative Co-Chair are open positions that need filling.

Fundraising:

- Melissa Denke talks about QAE fundraisers. (See slide 7)). 50% of QAE budget goes to staffing, next is curriculum, classroom support and then PTSA activities. (See slide 8 for breakdown)
- Melissa talks about the upcoming QAE auction projected goal and how people can help.(See slide 9)

Facilities Update:

- Amy Janas updates everyone on Staff and Student growth at QAE. (See slide 11).
- On slide 12 is a picture of the portables that we currently have on campus.
- To plan for next year the above scenarios on slide 13 are options.
- On slide 15 and 16 is what we as a community can do to advocate for our school.
- On slide 18 are exterior refreshes and phases that the school will need. The idea is to bring the learning environment outside.
- On slide 19 are some ideas using inside space outside of the classroom for learning. Lara and Laura have carved spaces in the tree house for themselves to work with students.
- On slide 20 are a few sound dampening tools to use in the cafeteria and gym. On slide 21 are ideas for exterior refresh of portables to make more appealing and to connect to main campus.

One to World

David introduces:

- Council Member Tim Burgess, City of Seattle (Chair, Education and Governance)
- Carmen Rahm, Chief Information Officer, Seattle Public Schools
- Colleen Halvorson, Manager of Tech Support Services, Seattle Public Schools
- Eric Caldwell, Manager of Library Services & Instructional Technology, Seattle Public Schools
- Gary Cranston, Instructional Technology Specialist, Seattle Public Schools

- Sarah Pritchett, Executive Director of the Central Region, Seattle Public Schools (David's boss)
- Ken Gotsch, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance (may walk in later, very important part of program)
- Heather Johnson, principal of Catherine Blaine
- Alberto Pena, member of QAE staff through the college tech program hired by district to work 20 hours a week.

Carmen Rahm speaks about partnering with the PTSA. He came on a tour and saw students that were engaged, very excited about learning. Spoke to Amy about what to do to partner together instead of telling people what to do. Carmen talks about the technology summit. What do we want to do with technology? What do we want our children to learn? The summit couldn't accommodate a large amount of people so they are taking it on the road to different schools so more people can add more vision and plans. Carmen stressed that he worked with David to get the One to World program going.

David addresses QAE community about his vision that he had almost 5 years ago with the superintendent about starting a tech school which transferred from his vision to our vision. But now we don't use "tech" to describe our school. It does not stand on it's own. We outgrew it because we've focused on PBL, SEL, and advanced learning opportunities. Tech has been integrated into everything now. We have creative and innovative teachers to fulfill our vision who have a growth mindset for themselves and their students. The One to World tool is one along with many others we use at QAE.

David talks about Mindset (the book) and describes the two mindsets. One is the one we grew up with (fixed) that when it's hard we say I guess I'm not that smart and don't believe I can do it, and the other mindset, growth, some of us grow up with it or develop it and it says I may not know how to do it "yet" but I will. The staff at QAE have the growth mindset and believe in each and every student. What does it look like for your child? The devices are NOT screen time but learning devices. It captures and holds student learning that can go out into the world. Because of the quality of our staff, we have taken on this endeavor.

Molly Meck, first grade teacher, is introduced. Molly talks about twitter and how it has connected kids with others throughout classrooms. She has two students who came to the meeting to show what they have worked on in first grade on their ipads. The ipads gave her students their voices. They wrote a story about a sparrow with pictures and words. Then Molly introduces a couple other students who created stories on their ipads.

Ms. Smith is introduced and introduces a student who came to show a math book that was made on her ipad to teach others how to count.

Ms. Colando is introduced and shares that two kids from her class are tweeting about the meeting and also blogging. She has two other students explain about a skyping game called

Mystery Skyping that they do with other classrooms around the country. It is a student run game using ipads and Google Earth.

Next Mr. Liner speaks about his kids working on digital portfolios and using their ipads to post on their websites and blog. The kids have also become “guest teachers” teaching others about math through lessons.

Teachers are also able to communicate and share with others while being in the classroom through technology. (See slide 28 for specifics).

On slide 29 is a chart of the learning environments at QAE and how technology is integrated into the school. Many different learning styles benefit from devices.

A Resource Guide will be coming out about technology at QAE and all the information that parents need to know.

David Elliott’s closing comments:

David asks people how many own devices and the answer is we all do. It is not just a phone but is everything. Apps, videos, camera, computer, etc...So why not put it in the hands of our kids to learn from. We never got trained to use it but our kids will. This is not screen time but a learning tool that teachers are teaching kids how to use.

Q and A:

David reads a few questions that were sent in.

Q: What percentage of kids at QAE are participating in the One to World program?

A: All students are participating and 86% of families have made the payment. If people still have questions there will be a link on the website where you can submit them.

Q: Why is SPS so slow to support and parent funded technology program for students?

A: Carmen answered that tonight. It took so long this year because partly how it was done last year and also this program has never been done before.

Q: Why is it so hard for SPS to predict the student population year to year?

A: We don’t have accurate demographic information.

Q: Will there be a parent teacher conference in the spring?

A: No. The district only pays teachers to do conferences once a year.

On Slide 33 are upcoming events at QAE and in the SPS community.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm. Minutes taken by Mindy Katz PTSA Secretary