

Oak-Land Junior High PTA

www.oljhpta.org

Meeting: 9/14/09

1. Welcome / Introductions

2. Principal's Report

- MCA test data shared. Oak-Land students tested above state averages.
- 94% of last year's 9th graders passed the writing test. Way to go!
- 80% of AP Geography students passed the AP test – well above international and state averages.
- Late start days – used by teachers to collaborate with teachers in other buildings, modify end of semester tests, discuss curriculum. There are 6 late start days throughout the year. Check O-L's website for dates.
- Run for Technology: Saturday, October 3, Stillwater Track. Sponsored by Partnership Plan. The Partnership Plan will match each school, up to \$3000, for funds raised by each school. Oak-Land raised \$7,021 last year (total earnings w/match). Visit www.oljhpta.org for a direct link to the registration information for the run/walk.
- This is Oak-Land's 7th year of the 1 to 1 laptop program. Roll-out day for 7th graders will be September 21. Special thanks to the Help Desk Staff – they touch every lap top a minimum of 4 times each during the summer months.
- For the 2010–2011 school year, Oak-Land's laptop program, as we know it today, will be a thing of the past. However, Oak-Land will continue to offer a technology-rich program. Many ideas are being discussed at this time. Some of the options currently being discussed include parent provided technology. Derek would like to have a plan in place by January 2010 to allow staff members and families time to prepare for the 2010–2011 school year.
- Other technology...iPod Touch programs are being piloted in several schools.
- Around the corner...improved wireless network throughout school district.
- Contact Derek Berg if you are interested in providing thoughts and ideas related to the future of technology at Oak-Land.
- A few student expectations worth mentioning...
 - Cell phones should be powered off during school hours (not just on vibrate). Parents, please don't send text messages during the school day to your student.
 - Bus behavior – do the right thing, even when no one is looking...that is a true measure of your character.
 - After school opportunities – either go home on the bus, get picked up by a carpool by 2:45, or go to a supervised after school activity. Students should not be unattended in the building after school. If students are staying after to see a teacher, parents should verify this with the teacher ahead of time.
 - Dress code – use common sense, be appropriate, no advertising on clothing for tobacco or alcohol, shorts should come to fingertips, no spaghetti straps showing, no tube tops, no hats on during school hours. If in doubt, don't wear it. Don't dress for the shopping mall or beach, dress for success at school.

- Questions came up about long bus rides, and buses arriving late to school in the morning. Derek reports that busing is better this year than at the start of other years. However, due to road construction/closures, and budget cut-backs that have affected busing, busing concerns still exist.

3. Committee Reports

- PTA audit done recently – everything solid from an audit standpoint for Oak-Land PTA. PTA membership is currently at 118 members (up considerably from last year). PTA insurance has been renewed (this covers dances, etc...). PTA is sponsoring Derek for \$3000 for Partnership Plan Run for Technology.
- Fall fundraiser – our biggest money-maker of the year...cookie dough, pastry, pizza, soups, etc. Kick-off date is **September 24th**. We're looking for a higher participation rate than last year (only 20% of students participated last year).

4. School Board Report

- Extremely busy summer for board members – work sessions, seminars, etc..., learning about governance rather than management. The board is working on strategic goals using a "scorecard" to see how well we're doing. This year, the board is very, very focused, and looking towards the future, seeking community support along the way.
- There will be a long range school board planning meeting this Wednesday night, 6PM – 9PM (technology, transportation, Early Childhood education are some of the topics that will be discussed).

5. New Business

- Technology task force – contact Derek or Trish if you're interested. See PTA website for contact information.
- School Dances – looking for chaperones...it's great fun! **October 2** is the first dance – theme will be a dance contest. Contact Trish to volunteer to chaperone. Chaperones need to have background check done.
- New PTA website: www.oljhpta.org
- Open to ideas for future PTA speakers. Contact Trish if you have good ideas!
- PTA is looking for parents to plan teacher appreciation events.

6. Next Meeting: October 26, 2009, 6:30-8:00

- Guest speakers: Matt Howe and Mike Dronen