

Oak-Land Junior High PTA

Meeting: 10/26/09

1. Welcome / Introductions

2. Principal's Report

- Chemical sniffing dog was in O-L first part of October, searched 2 lockers, nothing found in lockers. Mr. Berg reports that this is an improvement over 5 years ago.
- Parent/teacher conferences coming up soon. 8th/9th grade teachers available by “arena style”, 7th grade advisory teachers will be conferencing with parents of 7th graders. Please see O-L website for more information on conferences.
- Sign-up for O-L listserve if you haven't already! It's a great way to find out what's happening!
- O-L going to electronic report cards beginning this fall. First semester grades will be available on November 11 at 4:00 PM on Skyward Family access. Usernames and passwords were given out at on schedule pick-up days in August. Contact your child's counselor, or a secretary in the front office, for your username and password if you don't know yours.

3. Guest speaker: Mike Dronen (District Technology Coordinator)

- Contact information: http://www.stillwater.k12.mn.us/Technology_Staff_List.html
- Wireless: The high school has had a dedicated secure student network for four years. The number of students using that network with their own equipment has continued to grow. WiFi replacement and upgrade are coming soon to Oak-Land and Stillwater Junior.
- There are many professional development in technology integration opportunities for staff.

AT THIS TIME, THERE IS NO DISTRICT PLAN FOR OAK-LAND TO CONTINUE ITS ONE-TO-ONE LAPTOP PROGRAM BEYOND THIS SCHOOL YEAR! Keep reading...

However, Mike Dronen presented the following options that are currently being considered. These options may be revised, or possibly eliminated altogether, when Mike makes a recommendation to Superintendent Ryskoski (contact information <http://www.stillwater.k12.mn.us/Superintendent>). It is imperative that all current and future Oak-Land families become actively involved in the technology discussion. You can contact the school board members about your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions relating to Oak-Land's technology. And, you can join Oak-Land's PTA Technology Task force (contact Trish Doede, see below). Don't wait! A decision will be made soon! **See the end of the minutes for more information about how to become involved.**

• Family/Student Ownership Option:

Purchase options –

- Apple Store for Stillwater Area Public Schools – first of its kind for MN. It would extend education pricing, normally reserved for faculty, for families.
- Dell will provide a similar store for families of Stillwater Area Public School students.
- Financing is available through each store.

Launch of Stillwater Apple Store –

November 1st, 2009

Family owned –

- Summer use if technology is family owned.
- Pros – Support could be handled by O-L if O-L were the sole administrators of the computer and a “supported” model were purchased.
- After Oak-Land, keep the laptop for high school, or sell it, or pass it on to a sibling.

- **Technology Coop Option:**

- Concept –

- For 1:1 levels of access to a district-owned laptop
 - Entirely elective
 - Fully funded for students in free/reduced lunch, and other scholarships available
 - annual commitment

- Benefits –

- covers all damage or loss over \$100. In the event of damage, coop members pay no more than \$270 of the loss.
 - improves access to technology at home for families

- Revenue Models -

- Tech coop could bring in some revenue to district

- **Timeline for recommendations – earliest recommendation would come December 10th**

4. Treasurer's Report

- \$20,042 total sales from fall fundraiser. Of that, we get approximately 40%. That profit will be available for grant opportunities.
- **Call for volunteers for fall grant committee volunteer** – only about a 3-hour time commitment. Volunteers review grants from teachers and community members, and decide on which grants to approve.

5. Next Oak-Land School Dance: Battle of the Bands, January 8

Stillwater Area High School's student council has a big Battle of the Bands contest every winter. This year, Oak-Land will ask the 5 semi-finalists to attend our January 8 dance to have an Oak-Land version of Battle of the Bands. Bands will perform, and all students in attendance will have one vote. Students will still have time to dance!

6. Next PTA Meeting: January 11, 2010

Visit the PTA website: www.oljhpta.org

THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS ARE FROM THE O-L PTA BOARD MEMBERS:

Contact Board Members to share your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions related to technology!

Click on the following website for school board contact information:

http://www.stillwater.k12.mn.us/Address_and_Phone_List.html

1:1 technology is going away! Join the Oak-Land PTA Technology Task Force!

Email Trish Doede, Oak-Land Junior High PTA President, at Trish.Doede@deluxe.com.

- Task Force will need to determine their mission (educating families on what is happening, creating a plan for contacting the school board, pull together the information to figure out and present the true costs of keeping/cutting the 1:1 program, examine the alternatives to 1:1....what else?)
- Determine what we are going to do around conferences. We will likely need to figure this out before we get the task force together...maybe it is a place to recruit members for the task force. Conferences are a great opportunity to get in front of a large chunk of parents. What information do we want to put out, how do we get it together, are we looking to do a survey?
- Figure out how we will engage with the incoming 6th grade parents.
- Determine what we are going to do around the board meeting on Dec 10th.