

Oak-Land Junior High PTA

Meeting: 04/12/10

1. Welcome / Introductions

2. Principal's Report

TECHNOLOGY:

2010-2011 Technology at Oak-Land: 16 carts (32 laptops/cart), 512 total laptops on those 16 carts. 10 of the 16 carts will have new MacBooks (320), and 6 of the 16 carts with the existing G4s. We will keep 500 of the 1000 G4s with no warranty. Of those, 192 of the 500 will be on carts, and the remaining 308 will be cannibalized to support the life of the 6 carts. Chris Johnson and Dave Hughes will be busy! The remaining 500 G4s might be sold, or might be kept. We will also be purchasing 40 new iMacs that will be located in our Media Center (temperature controlled environment, already wired) as a computer lab. The Media Center will serve as a testing site (MCA, etc...), but will also be available before/after school for students, or during the day for use by teachers. How will the carts be distributed? One possibility is to give 4 carts for grade 7, 4 carts for grade 8, 4 carts for grade 9, 1 cart for special education (split among various locations), 1 cart for video production, 1 cart for Geometry, 1 cart for Earth Science. How will teachers use technology: video conferencing, blogging, cooperative learning, research fluency, presentation software, content creation, writing, interactive whiteboards. There will be specific emphasis on student achievement, on the use of Moodle (daily/weekly) for formative assessments, using online simulations (Earth Science, and other courses). We will still have access to emerging technologies such as iPod Touch, iPad, Moodle, and Google Apps. Online textbooks will be heavily utilized. Currently, the junior high schools have not been approved for a new wireless network. Therefore, the concept of students bringing in student-owned machines will not be encouraged or discouraged at this time. There will need to be staff development to support this changing model.

SKYWARD:

Right now we are considering a change from The Planner / Easy Grade Pro to Skyward for the 2010-2011 school year.

SEMESTER GRADES:

All secondary schools will use semester grades beginning in the 2010-2011 school year. Consistency is desired. Semester grades are currently used on transcripts and to determine honor roll. Mid-semester progress reports will still be communicated in November and in April. Teacher communication with families will continue to be a must for underperforming students.

MCA II TESTING:

7th Grade – Reading (April 13 & 14), Math (April 20 & 21)

8th Grade – Reading (April 13 & 14), Math (April 20 & 21), Science (sometime during May 17-21)

9th Grade – Grad Writing Test (April 13)

3. Committee Reports

TREASURER:

\$3600 was given out in grants (projector mounting, document camera, display case). We have \$4462.06 in reserve. Part of that will be used for this year's teacher appreciation, and the remainder will be saved for starting the 2010-2011 school year.

Rich needs someone to audit the books. Rich cannot do this, and cannot recommend someone to do this. Holly will work on finding someone.

SCHOOL BOARD:

Early Childhood Education building purchased (will be owned outright in 15 years), and will be up and running Spring 2011. Collaborating with District 916 and Courage Center.

The Board recently went through a work session regarding changing boundaries. Changes will most likely not take place until 2014.

4. School Board Report

OFFICER ELECTIONS:

Holly Langworthy - President

Heidi Hubbard – Treasurer

TEACHER APPRECIATION:

Heidi Hubbard is interested in coordinating this effort. There is approximately \$600 set aside in the PTA budget for teacher appreciation.

5. New Business

None.

6. Next Meeting

This was the last regular PTA meeting for the 2009-2010 school year. There will be one additional transition PTA meeting to prepare the new officers for next year.