**Middlebrook PTA Meeting**

**September 18, 2014**

1. **Call to Order – Middlebrook School @ 9am**
2. **Approval of May 2014 Minutes**
3. **Principal’s Report – Maria Coleman**

* Maria Coleman introduced School Resource Officer Diane McLean, who will be on the Middlebrook campus on a daily basis.  She will be present as a proactive force to make connections with students and support our safe school environment.
* Maria Coleman shared a slideshow of summer improvements to the school facility. Upgraded areas included: gymnasium floors, cafe food line, I-STEM flooring, math lab classroom, and Project Adventure outdoor climbing equipment.
* Middlebrook's current enrollment is 1047 students. The breakdown is as follows: 361 students in 6th grade, 342 students in 7th grade, and 344 students in 8th grade.
* 33 new students have enrolled for the year.
* Middlebrook is pleased to announced the recent installation of two water bottle filling stations inside its facility.   The new stations are the result of a seventh grade "Power of One" project completed by students Delia Freliech, Isabella King, Marguerite Koch, and Bridget Wall.  These students teamed up to identify a world-wide issue about which they felt passionate.  Their focus was on reducing the environmental waste of plastic water bottles by providing water filling stations at Middlebrook.  In the first three weeks of school, over 3,000 bottles of water had been filled at these stations.
* It was a very successful Open House season. All three Open Houses were well-attended and received positive feedback.
* Students at Middlebrook celebrated Constitution Day and International Peace Day with announcements, trivia, and various classroom and school-wide activity.  All members of the school community were invited to create peace tags which now hang in the main lobby.
* We are pleased to announce the summer purchase of an additional iPad cart, an additional Chromebook cart, and our first 3-D printer.

1. **Teacher Representative – Marnia Kiernan**

Grade 6

* Teachers implemented a new orientation program for the first day of school. Each subject area teacher introduced students to a different part of Middlebrook life:
  + working as a team
  + Middlebrook's Five Beliefs
  + student handbook (highlights)
  + using the school-issued assignment pads
  + organizing binders, taking a tour of the building
  + understanding schedules
* Sixth grade teams enjoyed making tie-dyed shirts and shared a great team day last Friday which included team-building activities and a friendly tug-of-war competition that ended in a 3 way tie for the first time ever!

       Team names chosen: 6 Red Pirates, 6 Yellow Firecrackers, and 6 Green Beans

        Looking forward to our shared assembly with a children’s author as our guest speaker on Sept. 26

Grade 7

* World Geography- students are learning basic terms and themes: economy, government, culture, etc. They have received, or will soon, individualized country assignments.  As aspects of geography and culture are learned, each student applies the new learning to his or her country.
* Math- 7th grade math and 7th Adv. Math: Rational and irrational numbers

Algebra: Properties of exponents

* RWW- comparison reading of stories
* Science- students have reviewed basic science practice and are beginning a chapter on ecology
* World Language- family trees and celebrations
* English- review of structure of writing and basic literary terms for literature analysis

Grade 8

* Social Studies- students researched the meaning behind the lyrics in Billy Joel’s *We Didn’t Start the Fire* as a way to refresh their basic research skills; Currently students are engaged in their first major research project of the year.
* Science- students are learning the bones in the skeletal system and analyzing the composition of bones
* RWW- students are engaging in literary discussions around short stories

1. **President’s Report – Savet Constantine**
2. Board listing passed out – Check for accuracy
3. Thank you to summer workers –
   1. Isabel Foltz and Betsy Wallon for Directory
   2. Pam Hickey and Martha Outlaw for membership / Directories
   3. Janel Cassara for back to school messenger – all grades went out via edline
   4. Patti Silvia – sportswear
   5. Hospitality crew for welcome back lunch
   6. MB janitors
4. PTA committee heads are requested to come to PTA meetings to give reports on their areas. Please keep track of expenses and stay in budget. If you think you are going to be over budget need to get permission from PTA board.
5. Minks to Sinks is coming up – let Mr. Priest know that he may be able to get supplies he needs for kindness club
6. Voting on Miller Driscoll building will be on Tuesday Sept 23rd with extend voting on Saturday Sept 27. Simple majority will decide the vote.

**VI. Officer Reports**

A. Vice President-Pam Hickey

1. Slightly behind membership from last year. 362 total members
2. Board members need to be members to vote on PTA
3. Directories will be delivered during lunch to students who did not receive them

B. Treasurer – Maria Wilcox

1. Maria passed out proposed budget and 2014-2015 year to date actual
2. Membership dues paid to state for 362 members
3. Ellen Essman completed 990-EZ Tax Form (fiscal yr 13-14). Taxes filed electronically.
4. MB PTA did not purchase 3D printer due to the district deciding to purchase one for the MB Library.
5. 14-15 Budget presented. Discussion on budget assumptions and amounts. Vote to pass budget. Motion made – seconded - Vote passes – 14-15 Budget approved.

6. Cash balances and current fiscal year activity presented. MB PTA has 3 amounts approved in 13-14 to be paid in 14-15 - $4,309 books for library; $500 3D printer supplies; $500 kindness Club

C. Parent-At-Large – Stacy Crameri

1. BOE “Notes from the BD” are on Edline. These are the chairman’s remarks after the BOE meeting.
2. Last BOE meeting was on 9/11
3. MD renovation vote to take place 9/23 and 9/27. Please come out to vote.
4. Committee Reports
   1. Fundraising – Laura Kirkpatrick
      1. Discussion on fundraising. 2 parts – letter for parents asking for straight money and gift wrap.
      2. Fundraising will focus on raising money for “playground” for middlebrook. Discussion regarding the playground. Playground would be age appropriate climbing challenge. Playground cost is approximately $40,000. Would need high participation rate to achieve
      3. Run from Oct. 1 to 17
      4. Discussion on the ability to buy things and donate to troops.
      5. Discussion on Pig promotion and how to get all kids involved.
   2. Open Positions
      1. 6th Grade Activitiy Night which is in October. If no one volunteers this event will be cancelled.
      2. Spiritwear – see discussion below.
      3. Secretary – Susan Patnaik had to resign
      4. Weekly Messenger – Liane Roseman had to resign
   3. Spiritwear
      1. First PTA thanked Patti Silvia. Patti no longer has a child at MB but did the spiritwear roll again for walkthroughs and open houses. Huge thank you for her efforts.
      2. Not much inventory left. Sold at open house and meet teachers about 600 articles.
      3. Looking into online vendor. One Miller Driscoll uses. Prices comparable. Perhaps use Wilton Sport Shop for large august sale and on-line store for remainder of the year.
      4. Someone needs to take this position over. Huge money maker for the school.
      5. Order Form should be taken off website
   4. Special Education – Janine Kelly

1. No report

* 1. Wilton Youth Council – Maria Wilcox

1. Chris Herren presentation is on Oct. 21. Doors open at 6:30 with presentation to begin at 7:00. Thank you again to MB PTA for supporting program. Recommended for ages 13 and older

* 1. Box Tops – Kim Rogg

1. 2 Deadlines – 11/3 and March. Will be submitting for the 11/3 deadline. Looking to put a sign on the front door to remind parents. Looking to perhaps put another box up in school.

1. Adjournment 10:25