

MINUTES

CHiPA Meeting

Sep 12, 2013, 3:30 PM

Back-to-School Night – Room parents reported being rushed during the classroom meetings. There was not enough time to explain everything or to complete/collect the volunteer forms. Suggestions for next year include:

- Inviting parents new to the school or classrooms to arrive earlier for a “business meeting”, followed by a time for socializing with all parents, and then breaking into classroom groups to receive more specific information
- Having the meeting on a different night as opposed to the first day of school; perhaps a few days later when parents might have more questions
- Skipping the all-school gathering altogether and meeting only in classroom groups
- Making the meeting mandatory for parents new to the school or classroom and optional for parents of continuing students

Some parents reported enjoying the format this year, feeling that their concerns were “heard.” Several room parents added that they liked hearing the teachers’ responses and wanted to learn more. Perhaps incorporating more structure into the activity, such as knowing questions in advance with time to prepare, would be helpful if repeated next year.

Volunteer Lists – Room parents will send an email to classroom families reminding them to complete and return their volunteer forms; please attach a copy of the volunteers form(s) to the email. All completed volunteer forms must be given to Heather Theophilus to enter into the volunteer database.

Community Service – Please email Heather Theophilus with any ideas for student community service projects.

State Theatre Volunteers – Each classroom will be assigned one month to volunteer at the State Theatre. During that month, room parents will email classroom families to garner support. Names of volunteers must be forwarded to Liz Ammond. Parents, grandparents, friends, and kids over 14 are eligible. Two classrooms will be assigned during the busy months of November and December.

Fall Festival – Carrine Pomaranski will coordinate the Fall Festival again this year; however she will not be able to attend. Carrine will draft an email for room parents to send to classroom families asking for help. Volunteers are needed to help prepare activities as well as to work during the event. Please email Carrine if you are interested.

Mom’s Night Out – Invitations to this event will be mailed to all families soon. Once received, all room parents are asked to call and personally invite the new moms in their classroom.

Pumpkin Fun Day – Lower elementary room parents will get together soon to plan this event.

Meals for Families with Newborns – Alicia Walker will coordinate a Meal Train for families with newborns. Please contact her when a family in your classroom is expecting.

Minutes submitted by Sue Bolde