

Hello everyone!

The following is a brief summary of what was discussed at our November PTA Meeting in case you missed it:

PTA Officers reviewed the last month's activities for the membership including:

**** an update on our Believe Kids Fundraising efforts that have yielded just over \$20,000. There is still time to participate online if you missed the catalog sales dates. Thank you to all who did participate and thank you to our Treasurer Rachel Forish and Secretary Heather Corbridge for their hard work on making it happen!**

****Upcoming PTA sponsored Movie Night. Vice President Tausha Petrie has been working hard getting donations and organizing the entire event to show the movie "Brave" at Swanson Elementary tonight November 16 at 6 p.m. It's our first movie night in a long time and we using the money raised to send teachers from Swanson and Sherrod to the High Trust Workshop in early 2013. It is a workshop all about positive classroom management and how to interact with students, parents and staff in a wonderful and positive way. Thank you Tausha!**

Buy your yearbooks early online for a discount! A limited amount will be available to buy at the schools at the end of the year so if you want to make sure you get one, order it early! It's cheaper and your guaranteed to get one! Go to www.jostensyearbooks.com

We heard from both principals about what has been going on in their schools.

Mary Kate Mayer, Principal at Swanson talked about making sure everyone checks out their newsletter, they have just over 450 students enrolled currently and that they have participated in teacher-led instructional tours in which teachers from Swanson go over to Sherrod and watch them teach and then vice versa. This has led to increased understanding and better teaching practices at both schools and helped facilitate a smoother transition between 2nd and 3rd grade. Ms. Mayer announced that Mrs. Diane (Vanhoomissen), will be retiring from her desk at Swanson in January. Her warm and welcoming personality was felt by thousands of families and children over the years and she will be missed. PTA wishes her all the best in the next chapter of her life!

Dan Michael, Principal at Sherrod talked about their *School Survey* that he would like all parents to take online. Please go to the school website and let your voice be heard! It is very important to get as much parent input as

possible so that the school can adapt and make changes based on parent requests and input! Mr. Michael also talked about their new math enrichment program that they are funding for kids called ALIX. Talk to your child's math teacher for more information. There are just over 450 students at Sherrod currently and he indicated that the students' fall MAP scores were excellent across the board, but especially in the students' reading scores. Great job students and teachers!

E-SCRIPPS!!!! Please go to the Carrs/Safeway website and register your card number for e-scripps! That is the only way Safeway donates to schools anymore. Practically everyone has a Carrs Card-all you need to do is register it and everytime you shop there, our schools get money!

A member commented on a new Pre-school program offered by the school district called "Widening the Net." The member wanted to increase awareness about the program as she was delighted by the content for her child and thought it was a very worthy program to support. You can get more information about it on the Mat-Su School District website.

Also discussed was the next big family night to come after tonight's movie night. PTA is hosting the 2nd annual Art Night in January. The tentative date is January 24 and Kris Adamscak is coordinating again this year. It was such a great success last year