

## OES PTO Agenda for December 10, 2020

- ★ Welcome & Introduction of Officers: Jess Marshall & Michele Hildebrand-Co-Presidents, Jeannette Blaustein -Vice-President, Janet Blanco-Treasurer, Aimee Aubry-Secretary
  
- ★ Foundation Update ([www.CapeCharterFoundation.org](http://www.CapeCharterFoundation.org))
  - Gary stated they have a deficiency in Lighthouse nominations. They are currently in the low 100's; at this time last year they had over 300 nominations. Asked everyone to spread the word that they need more nominations. Go to the foundation's website to nominate. They have extended the nomination period to January 4th.
  - Rally is still planned for April. They know for sure they will have the golf event. The family friendly part remains unsure due to covid.
  - Grant applications are still open. They have 3-4 left through 12/31. More are budgeted for next year.
  
- ★ Guest Speaker: Mr. Hopper OMS Principal
  - Mr. Hopper introduced other OMS administration staff that was on the call.
  - Reviewed powerpoint which can be found on the OES Families FB.
    - OMS has 12 consecutive years of an A-rating from the State of Florida
    - They are second highest in the district and in the Top 50 in FL charter schools in reading
    - 50% of staff members have advanced degrees
    - School starts at 7:40; 2 hours earlier than other middle schools
    - They have block scheduling with math and ELA/reading daily
    - 25 students max per classroom (some class sizes are as low as 16/17/18)
    - Last year Mr. Hopper and other admin staff went to FAU to get ideas on innovation for the middle school, with programs such as makerspace and robotics. They subsequently turned the old media center into a makerspace called Gator Garage. All students go at least twice a year with others attending much more frequently depending on electives. All subjects are covered (not just science); they incorporate STEM activities into all subjects.
    - Health and Safety is their number one priority especially this year due to covid.
    - Google classroom is used for all students/teachers to stay connected. This helps students stay organized and on top of due dates as they transition from elementary to middle school. They also use Focus for grades and ParentSquare for communications, so no change from elementary.
    - Progress monitoring is done through STAR for reading and math.
    - iReady is a curriculum program (core program for reading and math). In the next few months they will be reviewing implementation plans for a new ELA program next year.
    - Not sure what they will continue in terms of covid modifications they've made this year. They will of course keep the touchless water fountains. They will probably keep the one way hallways as this has helped with behavior issues

while moving between classrooms. Not sure about masks, cohorts, etc.; will depend on vaccine.

- Credits are earned in middle school for ELA (English Language Arts), Math, Science and Social Studies, in addition to an 8th grade credit in careers. Students need 12.5 credits to move on to high school. If they fail a class one year they can make it up the next year but it's a tough schedule as the student will be unable to have any electives so it's important for students to stay on top of it.
  - They have three academic levels: GATE (gifted), Advanced and Standard. Placement in classes depends on state tests (FSA) taken in 5th grade. ELA scores are the driving factor with Math being a close second; not as much focus on science but could be a deciding factor if a student is on the fence. They do not take any elementary school grades or teacher recommendations into consideration.
  - STEM used to only be for students in the GATE program but is now open to all students.
  - They do offer classes for high school credit; Algebra in 8th grade and Spanish which is a two year course so it starts in 7th grade.
- Questions:
    - Will they keep iReady next year or implement new math/ELA programs?
      - If they can get the ELA program purchased then they will look at the timeline for next year. They will let the data/numbers speak for themselves; is iReady getting them where they need to go? Goal is in 2 years to adopt a full ELA program and full Math program.
    - Can a list of electives be shared?
      - Electives were listed on the next slide of the presentation which will be put on the website. They try to add/subtract based on student feedback. Some new electives include Coding for 6th grade, Gator News and a Dance Studio.
  - Mr. Hopper reviewed the clubs available:
    - Maker Mondays - STEM activity in Gator Garage; their last make was a touchless sanitizer dispenser
    - Builders Club - an extension of K-Kids (Key Club in high school)
    - Garden Club - meets every week
    - Musical - still hoping for an end of the year musical
    - SADD - Students Against Destructive Decisions
    - Retro Gaming - Space Invaders, PacMan, Centipede
  - Intramurals are the same as the district schools. They are still doing many of them this year with a few such as basketball and volleyball on hold due to covid.
  - New banners are coming for the gymnasium; they recently won several awards in Cross Country included Fastest Boy in the District.
  - Top OMS issues include dress code violations (#1) and Bullying which is limited by still exists as it does in all middle schools. OMS takes all claims seriously (issues are primarily

middle school drama) and believes it is important how the school responds. They bring the kids in to work it out and use each situation as a teachable moment. The students get one opportunity to fix it. Any subsequent offenses require an administrative hearing with a parent and at that point the principal can have a student removed from the school. They have taken this action before and Mr. Hopper stressed that they take these issues seriously.

- OMS added new shirt colors this year (green and purple). He noted that almost all middle school students wear hoodies regardless of weather/season. Those must be OMS or school branded (OES, school play, etc.)
- They use PBIS Rewards. 98.5% of students are behaving and making the right choices. Rewards translate to Gator Dollars.
- He noted that the OMS experience is somewhat limited this year with most things on hold due to covid. They still need to unveil the new Gator logo which they would typically do at a pep rally.
- They typically hold an open house for incoming students. They have not made a decision about open house for the 2021-22 school year yet. At a minimum they will be doing a Facebook Live session where they will present the same information that was presented here tonight as well as a tour of the school and meet the teachers. This will be held on January 12th.

★ Jess Marshall gave a staff of the week program nomination reminder and encouraged everyone to keep nominating.

★ President's Report:

- Jess discussed Past Events
  - Giving Tree - we captured some cute pictures and submissions
  - Five Below Fundraiser just ended. It wasn't very successful so we probably won't do that again next year.
- Michele discussed Communications
  - Facebook- **OES Families**, please "Like" us
  - Parent Square and Panther Press are used by administration so make sure to read updates provided there
  - PTO Rocks on the website
  - Administration school Facebook page--**Oasis Elementary South**
- Michele gave a couple of reminders
  - **Box Top** reminder to scan those box tops. We have a new Box Top lead, Lisa Ridolfi
  - **Restaurant Cards** are still on sale; email the PTO if you are interested
  - **Holiday Giving Tree:** Tree located outside of the main office. Please take a card and return your gift to the office. You can send gifts to Stefani Foster and they can be matched as well. If you are a family in need please click the link on panther press. This program is run by the school so please direct any questions to the school office.

- Jess discussed Upcoming Events
  - Frosty Factory Extended until Dec 13th. Fun daily activities
  - Santa will be arriving Dec 16th for bus riders and Dec 18th for carline
  - PTO gift to students: Pencil and treat will be distributed next week
  - Michele discussed our Teacher Appreciation event: Basket Raffle. Next Friday we will pull names and hand out gift baskets. Michele thanks OES families for all their donations to make the basket raffle happen.
  
- ★ Janet Blanco presented the Treasurer's Report
  - We have \$31,752 in our bank account.
  - No change to income this month. The Five Below and Frosty's Factory funds have not been deposited yet.
  - No change to expenses other than teacher reimbursements and virtual fall events which came in under budget (\$800 budget vs. \$767.51 actual).
  
- ★ Principal's Report: Ms. Grecsek
  - She thanked Gary and Jen Hope for the grants that have been secured through the Foundation for OES teachers
  - She encouraged everyone to nominate for the Lighthouse Award. There is a link on ParentSquare.
  - She thanked all the OES families and staff for their generosity in the CCPD toy drive.
  - She reminded everyone that K Kids is still looking for donations for their stockings.
  - We have hired a new art teacher.
  - Next week is holiday spirit week; info can be found on ParentSquare
  
- ★ Teachers Report:
  - Tiffany Brown K-2 noted that Kindergarten received a grant that they used to purchase a phonological awareness program that has been a huge hit.
  - Heather Santana 3-5 noted the teachers are loving the Friday treats.
  
- ★ Governing Board Report: Kristopher Jackson, Elementary School Parent Rep, provided updates from the last meeting
  - There is a large amount of money in escrow that they want to use towards portables
  - If students are not adequately progressing with virtual learning, the state wants them to return to face to face instruction
  - The decision was made to allow students to change their instructional model at any time with a 3-4 day notice; they no longer need to wait until quarter-end. Ms. Grecsek noted that at the elementary school level they will need at least a week to turn around a request for change to the instructional model.
  
- ★ Open Discussion - none
- ★ Next PTO Meeting: Wed, February 10th
- ★ Adjournment

