



**APT Meeting Minutes - October 15<sup>th</sup> 9:15am**

**Participants:** Dr. Michelle Shinn, Kate Rother, Tish Houston, Laura Schlemm, Becky Nagel, Danielle Carter, Suzanne Sands, Heather Strong, Heike Regner, Nancy Meier, Lana Raines, Rae Anne Alvarez, Kate Rappel, Katie Frekko, Whitney Keller, Jessica Mueller, Consuelo Wilkinson, Maria Molloy

**Principal's Report:** Dr. Michelle Shinn

- Due to a variety of schedule changes and challenges as well as some lunchroom staffing changes Dr. Shinn decided to temporarily put the parent lunch volunteer program on hold earlier this Fall. Once the schedule and staffing issues were resolved parents were invited back to do lunch duty on Fridays. If you are signing up to do lunch duty please keep in mind that there are limited spots and many interested volunteers.

Parents have historically volunteered to assist the staff during lunchtime at Sheridan on a daily basis. Due to the nature of volunteering sometimes the spots go unfilled, volunteers are unable to come in at the last minute, or they don't really serve as supervisors when they do come in. As a result, Dr. Shinn has needed to staff the lunchroom as if there are no volunteers to ensure that students' needs are met. Thus, parent volunteers actually do not have a necessary role at lunchtime. On first Fridays of each month when there are dessert treats the extra parent hands are useful to help open treats for students. Dr. Shinn acknowledged that lunch duty is a desirable volunteer opportunity for many parents and is working on finding a way to make it accessible to more people. Additionally, Dr. Shinn is exploring other ideas for parent volunteers to play a useful, active role at the school while also seeing their children in action. Dr. Shinn will communicate new volunteer positions as they are viable, so please direct any questions regarding this change directly to her. She also thanked Kate Rappel, Sheridan's APT Food Service Representative, for graciously handling all the logistical changes and fielding questions during this transition.

- Please note the school calendar has been updated to include a professional development day for the staff on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2106, which means there is no school for students. Additionally, the District has decided that Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016, which is currently scheduled as a day off from school, will be a "Snow Day Option." This means that if school is closed due to inclement weather prior to that day, then there WILL BE school on February 12<sup>th</sup>. This change was made by the District based on feedback during the past few winters when additional snow days resulted in limited full weeks of school during the January – March time frame. June 1<sup>st</sup> is currently scheduled as the last day of school unless snow days necessitate extending the school year.
- The District is encouraging teachers to use the evening and full day set aside for parent / teacher conferences to hold these meetings rather than scheduling these conferences other time before or after school. Please be aware of this if you notice your child's teacher offering these time slots vs the flexible time slots that you might be accustomed to from prior years.
- There will be some LFHS students coming to Sheridan once a week as part of a PE class run by Joe Harmsen in which the high school students are learning about peer mentoring. Mr. Harmsen and his students will be helping Mr. Carney during one of Sheridan's 1<sup>st</sup> grade gym classes.

- Sheridan will have its first fire drill tomorrow, Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> supervised by the Lake Forest Fire Department. Schools are required to have at least one drill a year with fire department supervision per safety guidelines.
- You might have noticed that the hallway across from the front office and Dr. Shinn's office is blank after the summer renovation. The school would like to fill it with photos of the students in action at school. Please send any photos you have that might be a fit for this hallway to Dr. Shinn.

#### **APT President Report: Kate Rother**

- Congrats Dr. Shinn, Mrs. Duffy and Mrs. Schmidt for completing the Chicago Marathon this past Sunday! Another great year for the runners of Team Sheridan!!!
- Sheridan's Halloween Party is Friday, October 30th from 6pm – 7:30pm at Sheridan School. The cost is \$8 per person in advance or \$10 per person at door. Also, there is a NEW FAMILY PRICING OPTION of \$25 for a family in advance or \$30 at the door. Some of the special activities include: a **HAUNTED HALLWAY & MAD SCIENCE LAB; STATE OF THE ART PHOTO BOOTH; AIR BRUSH TATOOS; MONSTER CARNIVAL GAMES; AND...BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND...A GIANT BLOW UP OBSTACLE COURSE!** There will also be hot dogs available from the Left Bank Hot Dog Cart (gluten free options available). Volunteers are needed so please contact Lindsay Nero ([lsnero@gmail.com](mailto:lsnero@gmail.com)) if you would like to volunteer.
- Sheridan is hosting an Exploration Day on Friday Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> (a ½ day of school) from 9:00am – 10:30am at which members of the community/parents will come into the school to teach the students unique and interesting new skills. The students will be attending three approximately twenty minute sessions with a group including K – 4<sup>th</sup> graders all from their respective Houses: Hammerhead, Tiger, Black-Tip, and Reef (names selected by the students!) This is an exciting day for the students as they look forward to learning in a hands-on setting from new faces in addition to having the opportunity to get to know some of their Housemates. Parent volunteers are needed to help monitor the hallways, assist students in finding their next session, help with any needs a guest presenter has in the classroom, etc. Please contact Kate Rother if you are interested in volunteering.
- Sheridan's APT will be running a Halloween candy drive the week after Halloween. Extra candy can be dropped in boxes at the school's entrance and will be donated to Lake County Cares, an excellent volunteer organization located here in Lake Forest. Lake County Cares has a distribution system to ensure the candy is put in good hands.

#### **Committees Reports:**

##### **Fine Arts / Visiting Author: Tish Houston and Katie Frekko**

- Award-winning local (Vernon Hills) author, Barb Rosenstock, will be visiting Sheridan on Wednesday Oct 21<sup>st</sup> for the day. Barb has written seven, beautifully illustrated historical fiction books ranging from the multiple award-winning The Camping Trip That Changed America, which is about President Theodore Roosevelt and John Muir's interactions that resulted in so many forests being designated as national parks, to Fearless, which is about Louise Smith who was known as "the first lady of (car) racing." Thank you for returning forms for those who wished to purchase signed copies of Barb's hardbacked books. Your children will receive these next Wednesday when Barb is at Sheridan. Thank you to the Spirit of 67 for making this visit possible through one of the many 2015-2016 Spirit grants!

**Board of Education:** Whitney Keller

- Please see attachment for full Board of Education meeting notes. These are also posted on Sheridan's APT website.

**Spirit of 67:** Suzanne Sands

- This year the Spirit of 67 Foundation is hosting 2 new Fall events in place of the October luncheon including:
  - *Kick Up Your Boots for Education*, a Barn Dance Benefit to be held on Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm - 10:30pm at the home of Jeff and Joan Lynch. There is limited capacity, so please get tickets right away if you would like to attend.
  - Since everyone won't be able to make the Barn Dance Benefit, the Spirit also invites the entire community to participate in an online auction, *Raise Your Hand for Education*, from Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> through 9pm on Friday, October 16. This fabulous auction will feature everything from coveted school items such as Principal for the Day to unique experiences and opportunities to make long lasting and meaningful memories with family and friends. There will also be a few amazing live auction items for the Barn Dance Benefit that will be available for bidding online through October 17<sup>th</sup> at 9pm. Participating in the auction is a great way support the Spirit of 67 Foundation so that it can continue to have a powerful and lasting impact on every student in every school every day. Information about both events will be provided in invitations going out early next week and on our website.
- The Spirit of 67 Foundation is celebrating 30 years of supporting the District 67 schools this year. The organization was founded as a way to replace traditional school fundraising that involved spending lots of time and energy selling stuff to families and friends for relatively small profits. The foundation has proven to be a very successful endeavor over the decades and anticipates continuing the tradition by engaging even more families as donors and businesses as partners and sponsors. Throughout this anniversary year highlights of the history of the Spirit will be shared. Many of the grants funded by the Spirit over the years are still in use at the District 67 schools today.
- The Spirit is excited to have donations from approximately 42% of District families thus far, a great start to this year! If you are wondering if you are on that list you can check on the recently updated Spirit of 67 website: [spiritof67foundation.org](http://spiritof67foundation.org). Brooke Kuehle and Kimberly Carris are the APT reps and available for any questions: Brooke Kuehle – [brookekuehle@icloud.com](mailto:brookekuehle@icloud.com) and Kimberly Carris - [kimosc@aol.com](mailto:kimosc@aol.com).

**APT Community Liaison:** Suzanne Sands

- Please see the Sheridan APT web site for news on upcoming events sponsored by community organizations.

**Celebration Book Club**

- Celebration Book Club is a wonderful way to celebrate the birthdays and special events of the students at Sheridan School. Forms will be sent home to students during the month of their birthdays and are to be returned to Mrs. Newtown, the Sheridan Information Literacy Instructor. She assists the students in choosing a special birthday book. A photograph of the student holding the book is taken and is displayed on the bulletin board in Sheridan's main hallway. The students love to see the pictures of themselves and their friends. A commemorative

bookplate is inserted inside the book and the book will remain in Sheridan's library for current and future students. Parents are encouraged to participate in teaching their children the love of reading.

**Next APT Meeting:** Wed. Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> 9:15am

**Grade Level Parent Parties**

Kindergarten - The Falls Family - 11/13  
First Grade - The Frekko Family 11/6  
Second Grade - The Heijbrok - TBD  
Third Grade - The Bruce Family - 10/7  
Fourth Grade - The Burt Family - 9/25

**Coffees**

Kindergarten - The Garriques Family 9/18  
First Grade - The Raines Family 10/22  
Second Grade (Donoval) - The Mandarich Family 9/17  
Third Grade (Fahrenbach) - The Swift Family 9/24  
Fourth Grade - The Borneman Family 9/24