



APT Meeting Minutes – April 20th 9:15am

Participants: Dr. Michelle Shinn, Kate Rother, Margo Newtown, Tish Houston, Laura Schlemm, Heather Strong, Nancy Meier, Rae Anne Alvarez, Jessica Muller, Beth Laufenberg, Sarah Lockhart, Lindsay Nero, Kimberly Carris, Alana Hender, Becky Nagel, Rachel Baker, Brooke Rolek, Emily Savage, Jeanna Parks, Whitney Keller, Christian and Ian Fredericks, Amanda Lamberti, Eileen Swartout, Angela Borneman

Guest Speaker: Margo Newtown, Sheridan' Information Literacy Instructor

- Sheridan's Lightbulb Lab (formerly the IRC) is a very busy learning environment overseen by Mrs. Newtown. The space was designed with significant open areas so the students have room to move around and create things. The Lightbulb Lab is a safe place for the students to explore and take risks. Mrs. Newtown invited two frequent Lightbulb Lab visitors, Karl Nagel and Paul Fredericks, to present their thoughts on what makes the Lightbulb Lab special. Great job, Karl and Paul!
- Mrs. Newtown teaches all students about internet safety, using passwords with technology, effective ways to research online, and many other useful tools related to technology.
- Mrs. Newtown presented a video of the students learning while enjoying themselves in the Lightbulb Lab: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IX1t8m7w1mQ&feature=youtu.be>. Thank you, Mrs. Newtown, for putting this terrific video together!

Principal's Report: Dr. Michelle Shinn

- PARCC testing was completed last week. There is no formalized testing this week. The NWEA testing will be given to 2nd through 4th graders next week.
- District 67 has approved a 1/2 day for the last day of school, which is June 1st this year. Therefore, Sheridan students will only have school from 8am - 11am on Wednesday June 1st.
- Family Sharing Night is Thursday April 28th from 6:15pm – 7pm. Please note the slightly earlier start time.
- The Spirit of 67 Foundation's Grants Committee spent the day on Friday, April 15 awarding 23 grants, representing \$258,000 in funding, across District 67. It was a very exciting day for Sheridan as the school received several grants including a large one for a new playground to replace the approximately 20 year old playground that is now in the back of the school. Other Sheridan grants were: Fine Arts Presentations; SMARTBoards for Music Rooms; Visiting Author; Blue Stem and Monarch Books; 1st Grade Mentor Texts; Phonics Dance; Visiting Scientist; TAPit Board; Meaningful Play; and Light Bulb Lab Enhancements. Thank you to the Spirit of 67 for helping make Sheridan an even better place!
- The DPME Administration is holding a 5th Grade Parent Orientation on May 2nd from 10am - 11:00am and 7:00pm - 8:00pm at the DPM Auditorium. Parents of incoming 5th Grade students are invited to hear a presentation regarding the educational and extracurricular opportunities available for your children next year at the DPM-EAST campus. After the presentation there will be time for a question/answer period.

- In the next few weeks, teachers will begin the class placement process for the 2016-17 school year. Placement is a time intensive, thoughtful process where teachers consider the academic, social, and behavioral needs of all students. If you have any information that you would like your child's teacher to consider for next year, please contact them directly. Teachers consider all information carefully and it is helpful to have important information before finalizing class lists. Requests will be considered, but there is no guarantee that they will be honored. Class placement letters are mailed approximately one week before the start of school in August. Contact your child's teacher or the office with questions.

APT President Report: Kate Rother

- Please help support the Lake Forest/Lake Bluff LDA by attending their upcoming Spring Marché shopping bazaar on April 28th from 10am – 3pm and 7pm – 10pm at The Lake Forest Club. They have a great group of vendors offering unique products and great gifts. You can purchase tickets at: <http://lflbllda.com/spring-marche-2016/spring-marche-tickets>. The LDA is a non-profit organization where parents, educators and professionals come together to support, educate and provide resources for our children and each other. Funds raised from Spring Marché go toward the LDA's Make A Difference grant program, which annually awards a wide variety of educational supports to Lake Forest and Lake Bluff public schools, The School of Saint Mary and Lake Forest Country Day School.
- Please submit all requests for reimbursement for APT events to Amie Marks as soon as possible. Sheridan's APT cut-off date is June 1st. Requests for reimbursement received after this date will not be processed.

Gratitude (a.k.a. Super Hero Corner!)

- Food Service Liaisons – Kate Rappel and Molly O'Neil
- Fine Arts – Tish Houston and Katie Frekko
- Celebration Book Club – Kristen Chun and Rae Ann Alvarez
- Making Sheridan Beautiful – Brooke Kuehnle and Team
- Teacher Appreciation Team – Rae Anne Alvarez, Becky Nagel, Debbie Jensen, Ellie White, Emily Savage

APT Committees Reports

Teacher Appreciation Week: Rae Anne Alvarez ,Becky Nagel, Rachel Baker

- Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2nd through May 6th. There are a variety of activities planned to make Sheridan teachers and staff know how appreciated they are, including: breakfast; lunch; made-to-order afternoon coffee; yogurt bar; Shark Bites; and, a special giveaway at the end of the week. Sheridan students will be sent home with two Shark Bites to fill out for their favorite teachers. Additional Shark Bites are available at the office. Parents were sent an email with a Volunteer Spot online sign-up. Following are the week's activities:

- Friday, Apr 29 Hang Shark Bites at 1
- Monday, May 2 Breakfast in Lounge – 7:30
- Tuesday, May 3 Lunch (provided by Fresh Market)

- Wednesday, May 4 Coffee Run – 1pm
- Thursday, May 5 Yogurt Bar in the Afternoon
- Friday, May 6 Giveaway

Celebration Book Club (CBBC): Rae Anne Alvarez, Kristin Chun

- This month the CBBC sent letters to all students inviting them to donate a book in honor of a special teacher or staff person as part of our Teacher Appreciation Week in May. If you have not already seen a letter in your child’s take-home folder, please take a look or speak to Rae Anne Alvarez/Kristen Chun, CBBC Co-chairs. Please consider participating in the book donation collection this year, especially during Teacher Appreciation Week! This is a great way to commemorate teachers/staff and create a lasting tribute to Sheridan’s library, as well as offset the cost of purchasing books for the library each year.
- The ongoing collection of book donations through CBBC monthly letters to students (parents) during their birthday month has brought more than 30 donated books to our IRC/Library this year so far. Please view the bulletin board located in the main hallway to see photos of students with their birthday book selections.

Old Board / New Board Luncheon: Paige Robbins, Angela Borneman

- Sheridan’s final APT meeting for the 2015 – 2016 school year is a luncheon for existing APT Board members and new members joining the APT for the 2016 – 2017 school year. The luncheon will be held at Paige Robbins house at 569 Spruce Avenue, LF. An evite will be sent out in the next few weeks.

Food Service: Kate Rappel, Molly O’Neil

- March was National Nutrition Month and various food samples were offered to the students on three different days during the month including: a Moroccan carrot salad; a Tzatziki sauce with cucumbers for dipping; and, sliced mandarin oranges. The students were very open to sampling and seem to enjoy all the options. Thank you to Quest and the APT Food Service Liaisons for providing these special choices for the students. Also, thank you to the volunteers who helped distributed the samples to the students.

Yearbook: Beth Laufenberg, Tracy Barrett, Debbie Jensen

- The yearbooks have been completed and delivered to Dr. Shinn. Thank you Beth, Tracy, and Debbie for your endless hours of work. We all look forward to seeing the final product on the last day of school.

Parent Awareness: Ellen Trager, Eileen Swartout

- The APT Parent Awareness Team at DPM is hosting a panel entitled “Get A Jump Start on 5th Grade!” for incoming 5th grade parents on Tuesday May 10th from 9:30 – 11:00am in The Cube at DPM East. A panel of seasoned middle school parents will answer questions about their experiences surrounding the social transition into 5th grade. Topics range from snow pants to cell phones, from lunch boxes to uptown outings. Walk out feeling empowered so you can prepare your students for the exciting years ahead at DPM!

Spirit of 67: Kimberly Carris, Brooke Kuehnle

- HOME TOUR - The Spirit of 67's largest fund raiser, its annual Home Tour, will be held on Thursday, May 12th. Brooke Rolek is heading staffing for the Sheridan house. An email with a volunteer spot link was sent out a few weeks ago. Help is still needed for the middle shift from 10:45am – 1pm. Please consider volunteering. Feel free to email Brooke directly if you are able to help: bbrolek@gmail.com. Check the following link for different sponsorship opportunities and more information: <http://www.spiritof67foundation.org/home-tour.html>.
- GRANTS – As Dr. Shinn mentioned, Sheridan received some significant grants last Friday from the Spirit of 67 including a fantastic new back playground among several other grants. The Grant Committee worked tirelessly reviewing each grant in detail and awarding 23 grants across the four District 67 schools this year. Please support the Spirit of 67 through any amount of donation. Each year this foundation funds grants that enhance the schools and enrich our children's experiences. Please also consider getting involved in volunteering for the Spirit of 67.

Community Service: Sarah Lockhart, Rae Anne Alvarez

- There will be a school-wide campaign to collect unwanted school supplies from May 26th – June 1st at Sheridan. These school supplies will be donated to a school in need of such items. More info to come!

Board of Education: Holly Matson, Whitney Keller

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

Next APT Meeting: Old Board / New Board Luncheon May 18th at Paige Robbins' house