

MS PTO General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 23rd, 2017, 10:30am.
Mini Auditorium

Attendance: Dr. David Lovelin, Mr. Anthony Poullard, Mr. John Steinbach, Ms. Jennifer Dorn, Ms. Christine Collings, Ms. Valerie Scates, Ms. Tara Lynn Verenna, Mr. Kim Plamondon, Agent from Bundang-gu Health Center, Ms PTO board members, and about 70 KIS MS parents.

The final PTO report was omitted because of the special discussion concerning the recent health issue.
PTO will make a notice of the report through kakao talk grade rooms.

Principal Chat

- Teacher Appreciation Day - Teachers appreciated the cards and the posters.
- Who's who- 4 High school counselors were introduced to the parents.
- High school orientation - Friday, August 4th, 2017
 - Students - orientation Activities on 6th Floor of G building from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm
 - Parents - G9 Parent Meeting at 8:00 am in the Conference Hall
- LINK Leaders - LINK Crew Leaders will work with transitioning 8th grade students.

Spring EE Trips

- It aims for Personal Growth, Outdoor Learning, Relationship Building.
 - 299 students were in attendance.
 - Relationship building with teachers
 - All students pushed their limits (hiking, caving, canoeing, ziplining, teaming).
 - They had chances to connect with teachers and friends.
 - 40 teachers volunteered for the 3 day trip.
 - Students need to know how to take care of themselves - self advocate.
- Dr. Lovelin and Mr. Choi will join the 8th grade meeting to work on the health issue from 8th grade EE trip.
- Students experiencing sickness from the EE Trip are asked to report to Bundang-Gu Health Center for epidemiologic testing.
- The reasons were not certified yet. School just knows as much as parents know. No cover up and no hide for the parents.
- Spring Break Rustic Pathways Trips - sign ups begin in the next 2 weeks.
 - <https://sites.google.com/kis.or.kr/kis-ee/home>
 - Dr. Lovelin showed the video from Thailand 2017 EE Trip
- Dr. Loveline shared an information about "13 Reasons Why"
 - Netflix Series
 - <https://themighty.com/2017/04/parents-talking-to-kids-about-13-reasons-why-suicide>

MS PTO World Language Presentation

- Are students required to take a language course every grade?
 - As a policy, Yes.
 - Exemption- Only in case they have hard time in English, and they don't want double up language struggling.
- Some students, who did very poorly in a language class in 6th grade, were held back and were required to retake that class with the 6th graders?
 - Yes. Do it again and make sure they are ready.
 - There is no harm to retake some language class in college acceptance.
- Can students take a different language class every year?
 - Yes, they can. It is totally open if they can balance it.
- If a HS student could finish AP Chinese course at his/h sophomore year, what is your recommendation for him/her? Should he/she take another language course such as French, Spanish, or Korean?
 - He/She can take another language course, instead of doubling up on another subject, to become an even stronger global citizen.
- Many parents have heard that students were recommended 2 or 3 years of the same language courses in high school. They would like to know if their children need to take the same language course through 2 or 3 years.
 - Most universities expect 2 years of the same language course and for many, more years would strengthen the application.
- How can parents support at home?
 - Encourage your child to demonstrate skills learned.
 - Remind your child to review daily.
 - Ask your child if he/she seeks additional help when needed.
 - Contact teacher to find out more about your child's strengths and weaknesses.
- Are there studying tips you recommend when students prepare for tests?
 - Prepare prior to class and be engaged in class.
 - Review daily even if the class is not taken every day.
 - Do more than the minimum requirement; find ways to use the language outside of class and initiate conversations.
 - Get studying tips from teachers prior to taking the test.
- What proficiency level do students achieves in each level in middle school?
 - Depends on the language
 - Intro French= Novice High, French 1= Intermediate Low, etc
- What are thing that you see students struggle most in learning world languages?
 - Taking risks and not being afraid to make mistakes.
 - Finding different ways to express themselves, there is more than one way to say something.
 - Being more concerned with graders rather than improving skills.
- How many years of a language at KIS is recommended to take that language's AP test? Would KIS' language instruction be sufficient to sit for the test- assuming that the student is at par with what the KIS language class offers and no outside tutorials are taken?
 - It depends on the student's proficiency level.
 - KIS "path" : MS Intro, 1, 2, 3, 4, AP

Welcome to class of 2021

- Who's who in the high school?
 - Michelle Quirin, HS Principal
 - Aimmie Kellar, HS Associate Principal
 - Anthony Poullard, HS Associate Principal
 - College counselling Team
- Transition Activities
 - HS English to MS English classes
 - High school 101 with LINK leaders
 - Class 2021 welcome Pep Rally
 - Lunch with high school students

The MS PTO general meeting was followed by the grade meetings and were adjourned around 12:00 PM.

Dr. Lovelin, Mr. Dan Choi, and an officer from Bundang-gu Health Center joined the 8th grade meeting to answer parents' questions, regarding to the health issue from 8th grade EE Trip. Parents' feedback and suggestions at the grade meetings will be collected by each grade representative and will be used for the school improvements.

Lunch box from Hyundai Green Food was served for this meeting.