

**SVPTSA Council 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Presidents' & Principals' Reception:**  
*Monday, January 11, 2010, 10-Noon, Chief Kanim Middle School*

**Minutes from Elementary Breakout Session 10:45-11:45**

General reminder to all presidents to please use the council website local units events page (<http://www.svptsacouncil.org/local-unit-events.html>) when planning to avoid schedule conflicts district-wide. Council's yahoo group may also be utilized to post PTSA questions for feedback.

Each Principal/President team was tasked to bring their School/PTSA success stories to share with the group. The following highlights summarize the Elementary School teams' discussion.

FCE - Dan Schlotfeldt (Sophie Harris)

#1 "Sci-Art" Enrichment program – "½ day", 2.5 hours on Tuesday afternoons once a month, local art/writing/language/fitness courses offered to all grades, all students. Instructors take over the classrooms in conjunction with scheduled Specialist times to allow staff more combined planning time. Instructor payscale is a flat rate, negotiated by PTSA; supplies are included. Recently, instruction has taken more of a GLE/EALR focus.

OES - John Jester (Cathy Templin & Alice Romano)

#1 Budgeting process is collaborative. Realized need this year for PTSA to fund IAs, Reading intervention program, and Art. VISTAS are only Reading buddies, and provide 11 of 15 volunteers for this program, PTSA volunteers making up the remaining 4.  
#2 Student Directory for 2009-10 is in .pdf format only, not printed. To fund IAs, other "traditional" PTSA programs were cancelled this year, with teacher concurrence.

NBE - Jim Frazier (Molly Prather)

Molly is a NBE staff member and PTSA President, and shared some of the benefits of this position from her perspective.

#1 \$300 Checks presented to certified teachers with their paid PTSA membership, no receipts required. This gesture demonstrated trust and helped reinforce PTA/Staff mutual respect. NBE also allows families to sponsor a teacher's PTSA membership, ensuring 100% membership.  
#2 Art Enrichment "AIR" program continues funded by PTSA. 4 "artists in residence" are hired annually and teach from a dedicated art room; each NBE student receives art lessons weekly.  
#3 Reading and Math intervention (much of NBE Reading Intervention program is covered by Title 1 funds). Math intervention efforts as needed are supported by PTSA volunteers.

CVE - Ray Wilson (Lorraine Thurston)

#1 PTSA funded (1) IA position. Have received some feedback from parents, concerned that PTSA money should not be spent in this manner; "basic education" requirements should be funded by State. In the absence of State funding, should PTSA step in to help cover these areas, or gap and make the needs visible/unfilled?  
#2 Art Docent program run by PTSA volunteers, as required by classroom. Incorporation of Art into the classroom curriculum, by all staff, is a trial program this year lead by staff Art Liaison. Goal is to make our Art program sustainable; integration with Curriculum may be key.

#3 “Dance Man” programs were repeated during PE option on school days, and included Winter family dance where students could show off their new moves to parents/siblings.

#4 After-school programs reach ~1 in 4 students, a different class offered each day M-F. Use of Google Docs has helped streamline the process and enable online registration and roster generation for improved student accountability. (2) Co-VPs of Enrichment run this program.

SES - Cori Pflug (Deb Doy)

#1 PTA presence on LIT Learning Improvement Team ensures awareness of school focus areas; PTA quadrupled their amount given to these areas.

#2 Reading intervention – once a month 3 substitutes brought in together to allow grade blocks more teacher planning time (+ ½ -1 hour)

#3 Art enrichment program – 7 times a year (roughly once a month), projects are EALR based

#4 Planning for next elementary school boundary change: We should all strive to make our PTSA school programs consistent, e.g. offer desired After-school activities, have a “DOGS” program, and support the Arts. Consider having “welcome visits” for the students to their new school.