



11/14 PRS PTO Meeting - Notes

AGENDA

6:30-6:40	Welcome! Help yourself to pizza!	
6:40-7:00	Very special visitors to discuss world diabetes day and their experience with diabetes.	Bill & Kendall Woods
7:00-7:15	Mr. Walton our school Social Worker will discuss his role and be available for questions.	Mr. Walton
7:15-7:45	School updates	Mrs. Dixon
7:45-8:00	Budget review	Julie Dixon

In Honor of World Diabetes Day – A conversation around Diabetes awareness

- Bill and Kendall Woods are here to talk about their experience with Type 1 diabetes. Bill states, “Either you make it or you take it!” He has had over 70,000 insulin injections in his life.
- Bill and Kendall want to thank the school population for the generous donations towards our fundraising efforts for Diabetes camp. Money raised will enable a child to attend this camp. Bill went into details about how important the camp was to him as attending helped Bill to manage his diabetes himself.
- Type 2 and type 1 together affect 300M in the world. Managing diabetes is extremely expensive and challenging to live with, especially for children. There is a lot of monitoring of glucose, and food intake, injections, working with the schools, family and friends for support. It’s a constant battle, but can be managed. We just need to be educated.
- Bill is extremely grateful for all of the support his family has gotten here in the PRS community, and in our school. He is here for any of our questions and would like to be a community advocate, so if there’s anything that’s needed he’s available.

Signs to look for

- Flu like symptoms in addition to...
- Losing an excessive amount of weight in a short time
- Frequent urination and excessive thirst
- Breath smells fruity

A visit from our very own school Social Worker Mr. Walton

- Mr. Walton is proudly responsible for the social and emotional well-being of our children. If there’s concerns about friends, teach students to recognize the buddy bench. Life changes that

children don't have control over. He is here to talk to them and guide our children in what they're dealing with.

- There is a lunch program where children have lunch in his office. This gives him a chance to work with children on a broader scale.
- Peer mediation and training of students to help peers to resolve conflict is also available. There are 11 peer mediators this year.
- Many parents spoke regarding their child's experience working through situations with Mr. Walton and how beneficial that was to them. Thank you Mr. Walton for all that you do!

Mrs. Dixon on School Updates

- Parent teacher conferences are right around the corner. Sign up if you haven't done so already. Hear about goals and strengths in addition to talking about where we are and where we're going.
- The kindness and acceptance theme continues to go on this year. The program was enhanced this year with tickets going into raffles. The children can earn lunch with Mrs. Dixon (this has been very successful!); they can also earn lego time or extra recess. Overall this has resulted in such a positive environment for the school.
- Facility update
 - The referendum passed, we are now in the planning stages. The building will run parallel to Avery. There will be plenty of parking, a bus loop, the car rider area and drop off will be less congested. We are planning for a classic design.
 - Our transition to Orchard Hill is in planning. We do not expect to need to move all of our furniture etc. A principal's advisory group made up of a group of teachers and parents are looking at our memorials and what can be incorporated in our swing space.
 - Mark Zioli had the idea of saving bricks from our building and doing a fundraiser related to those. Will be discussing with the PAC next week. Being discussed now is what to do with them, keep them as a keepsake or add to a memorial. A PRS community photographer will capture the mural in a cool and creative way.
 - Kate Carter will be coming on January 16th to talk to parents about the transition.
- Thank the PTO for the great fall events.
- The Author in residence was very successful!
- Donna Bellizzi has been doing a great job coordinating the after school events!

PTO Budget Update

- Our budget is healthy, though there are some outstanding items that will be added when finalized.
- Tiger Tracks made approximately \$13,900
- World Diabetes day raised over \$300