

## Salam School PTA Meeting Notes

12/04/2017

Islamic Resource Center

12:00-2:30

- Meeting began at roughly 12:30p.m.
- Presentation was shown giving updates of the PTAs activities over the last month, explaining officer roles, asking for volunteers for upcoming events, and talking about time spent completing homework
- Parents expressed the following concern: **Homework** continues to be cumbersome for the average to below average students. It seems that some days or weeks have more homework, while other have minimal. Parents requested that homework be looked at by teams of teachers to assure that one day or one week does not have an undue amount of homework. Two suggestions were brought forth by parents. One suggestion was to look at similar schools and districts in the area to see what their homework policies are and to align Salam's school to the best of the abilities. Additionally, parents asked that all assignments, tests, and projects be put into the gradelink calendar for all students. Parents stated that student often forget to fill out planners or tell parents when assignments, tests and projects are due creating late or missing assignments. It was felt that some classroom teachers do a nice job communicating with parents. However, they would like all staff to communicate assignments.
- Parents expressed the following concern: **Teaching Staff** continue to be reported as yelling, screaming, and demeaning to students which is felt to then lead to a distaste for the subjects taught.
- Parents expressed the following concern: **Structuring Homework Time** parents are having difficulty with students bringing home needed materials. Once home parents are spending four plus hours doing homework at night. Questions were raised with how to structure the evening to complete homework, meals, and have some down time. Concerns were also raised with students ability to take test. This was a springboard for a conversation that introduced the idea of having speakers at each PTA meeting to address parental concerns. The PTA board will attempt to find a speaker to address homework and test taking strategies for the January 2018 meeting.
- The following were brainstormed as a list of following topics to discuss at future meetings: Critical thinking, technology, political issues (same sex marriage, people of differing beliefs, and the adoption of Christian traditions such as the Christmas tree). The PTA board will take these suggestions into consideration when planning future PTA meetings.
- A mother volunteered to provide the basketball concession stand items for the boys/girls basketball home games for this Thursday
- A mother volunteered to find volunteers to translate future notices from the PTA into the following languages: Arabic, Somali, Urdo, and Burmese
- At 1:30, the group split into three groups to plan the upcoming Chess Tournament, Father Son Basketball game, and Movie Night

- Updates were given regarding the movie night which will be held February 23rd, Students will be charged \$5 if they register by February 16 and the price will increase to \$7 if they register by February 21. The price will include a drink, pizza, and possibly popcorn. No concessions will be sold at the event. The event will run from 3:30-6:30. Students will eat, complete a craft, and do a science activity from 3:30-4:30 and the movie will go from 4:30-6:30. Movie will be chosen in the next month. We will need volunteers. Please email [salamschoolPTA@gmail.com](mailto:salamschoolPTA@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering
- The next PTA meeting will be held Thursday, January 4th from 12:00-2:30 p.m. at the Islamic Resource Center