

A Letter from Your School Organizational Team

To the Parents of Darnell Elementary:

The Darnell Elementary School Organizational Team (SOT) has just completed its first year of existence and I wanted to let you know what we have been doing.

As you all probably know, the SOT is a committee mandated by the State of Nevada to provide input on budgetary decisions in support the School Performance Plan for the school, and to participate in the selection of a new principal when a vacancy occurs. Two years ago, rulings were made to place more power in the hands of the school and from that came the SOT. The SOT is comprised of 8 voting members, which include 4 faculty/staff, and 4 parents. There is also a community member at large and the school principal, both of whom do not have voting privileges. The SOT meets on a monthly basis and is open to anyone who would like to attend.

The SOT as a whole is responsible for providing input on the school budget for the year. It is our goal to determine the number of teachers, which grades need the teachers, and what to do with the remainder of the budget.

This year our goal is to raise money to purchase materials for the school. Many of you may have noticed the thermometer in front of the school. This thermometer represents the effort of the school and the SOT to cover the cost of giving every student a math textbook. Normally textbooks would come from the school budget, but since ours is so small, it is impossible to buy textbooks and run the day-to-day operation of the school. This is where we need your help.

Throughout the year you will see notifications coming home about a variety of fundraisers that the school will be holding. We ask that you spread the word to friends and family about these events and that you too support them to the best of your ability. We are also in desperate need of volunteers to help with these events. Just like you, we are all parents and have families and other activities to go to. We need help to be able to run these events and to be able to provide your child with the best education possible.

We also would like to see you at our SOT meetings. Meeting dates and times are always posted on the school website and reminders are sent home before each meeting. We enjoy a healthy dialogue and appreciate everyone's input.

If you are interested in helping or want more information about the SOT, please contact the front office.

Thank you,
Bob Vadovic
SOT Chairperson