

**PTA Meeting**

**Minutes for January 5, 2016**

**6:30 PM**

**Elementary Library**

- I. Welcome/Call to Order
- II. Review and approval of December meeting minutes
  - a. Jenn motioned to approve, Alexis seconded
- III. Officer/Chairperson Reports
  - A. President
    1. Past Events
      - a. Scholastic Book Fair
        - i. \$1726.86 profit this year compared to \$1750.69 last year.
        - ii. Deposits were \$28 less than register balance. Likely due to book donations and tax donations. A volunteer cashier donated \$50 during the fair to help with both.
        - iii. Cafeteria location did not hinder sales. Group agreed the change in location was largely positive.
      - b. Hoffmann Car Wash GC Sale
        - i. We made \$91.25 in profit, so we are not raising enough money
        - ii. Should we consider asking for donation drive (or bottle slips) with a specific goal in mind and eliminate this fundraiser? We would need to meet with the superintendent about possibilities. Danielle will reach out to Tammy Sutherland so that we can have a discrete plan for playground improvements. Anne will attend the meeting.
        - iii. A pavilion is the idea we were originally considering supporting. A silk shade sail is also possible and may be more within our means.
    2. Upcoming Events
      - a. Krause's Candy Fundraiser
        - i. Packet pick-up is January 30th (Anne)
        - ii. Packets to teachers by February 3rd
        - iii. Sale is 2/6 to 2/17
        - iv. Megan will pick-up orders with Anne.
        - v. Parent pick-up date will be between March 25th and 31st.
      - b. YMCA Skating Night
        - i. January 21st
        - ii. We have the rink and the community room at the YMCA.
        - iii. Hot cocoa needs to be set up at 4:15.
        - iv. Last year we did coffee, but we are not doing that this year.
        - v. Jenn, Bonnie and Peter will help Danielle setup and cleanup.

- vi. Last year we ran out of refreshments, so the request went out to the entire school on the flyer. Those interested in donating are to email Danielle.
  - vii. Peter will bring a third hot water urn.
  - viii. Jenn and Anne will take care of cups.
- c. Folk Dancing Enrichment
    - i. Paul Rosenberg and 2 musicians from Homespun Community Dancing will be the hosts.
    - ii. They will be teaching the dances on 2/6 and 2/7 in PE classes.
    - iii. 2/10 is the culminating Family Dance Night and Potluck Dinner
    - iv. The flyer will go out on 1/26
  - d. Star Gazing Event
    - i. We need to find the darkest spot on the school campus.
    - ii. Peter will ask buildings and grounds if the outside lights can be turned off.
  - e. One School One Book
    - i. A meeting will be scheduled for the week of the January 25th.
    - ii. The book will be revealed after February break and read during the month of March.
  - f. Spirit Week
    - i. This is a requested idea.
    - ii. A good time to do this is the last full week of school.
    - iii. Peter would like to avoid a hat day because it becomes too distracting in the classrooms.
    - iv. During the February meeting we will determine formal dates.
  - g. Great Escape Reading Program
    - i. An email went out today letting teachers know that they need to be entering in their students reading logs.
    - ii. A reminder will be going out to families next week.
    - iii. We are getting lots of forms in.

## B. Treasurer

- 1. Financial Report
  - a. Current Balance: \$18,853.15
  - b. Outstanding Debts: \$487.03
  - c. Outstanding Deposits: \$3,848.43
  - d. Available Balance: \$15,491/75
- 2. School Banking Update
  - a. There is some confusion about receipts that needs to be clarified.
  - b. A list of updated banking dates has been submitted to the bank/families.

### C. Principal's Report

- a. Code of Conduct was updated by the Board of Education.
  - i. Language was updated to show positive expectations in addition to consequences that can occur.
  - ii. Cyber Bullying is included as it exists in the MS/HS.
  - iii. Hats/head coverings can be worn according to respectful guidelines and within classrooms according to teacher preference.
  - iv. Clothing with slogans is allowed as long as it does not create a disruption to the learning environment. A member raised concerns about students being able to wear clothing displaying the confederate flag under these guidelines. Mr. Mahan confirmed that the confederate flag is now allowed.
  - v. There is a section on 1:1 technology.
  - vi. You can find the Code of Conduct on the district website under the notes for the November business meeting.
- b. Curriculum Audit
  - i. A formal process needs to be instituted for curriculum development and there were 15 recommendations from CASDA made in this report and to the Board of Education.
  - ii. It was recommended that a full-time administrator be assigned to this task.
  - iii. This report can also be found on the District website.
- c. Lego Education Presentation
  - i. Everyone was tasked to make a duck with 6 random Legos.
  - ii. This program has aligned their product and curriculum guides to the learning standards.
  - iii. Box Top Earnings and a donation from ExxonMobil will be used to purchase one kit per grade level, corresponding lesson plans, and also host a parent breakfast to teach parents how to talk to their kids about math.
- d. Classroom Furniture Replacement
  - i. It is back in the budget and there will be research done to make purchases in the near future.
- e. Facebook
  - i. Bullying issues have been appearing online.
  - ii. Please encourage parents to talk with Peter regarding any issues they have.
- f. Peter has purchased the following books about diversity for each classroom:
  - i. Whoever You Are by Mem Fox
  - ii. The Color of Us by Karen Katz

g. Writing Sample

- i. The next building sample will be given in the next two weeks.
- ii. This sample is to be used to direct teacher instruction.

IV. Committee Reports

A. BLT - N/A

B. QEC

1. Tomorrow group is reviewing possible replacements for AIMSweb and iReady.
2. The current version of AIMSweb has its limitations. The newest version is much more comprehensive.
3. The iReady screening tool can give a great deal of summative data about students to diagnose skill deficits in order to reshape instruction.
4. Fast Bridge is another data tracking tool that is being looked at.

C. GATE - N/A

D. Advocacy - N/A

E. Membership - N/A

F. Nominating

1. Discussion has begun regarding election of new officers for the next 2-year term.

V. Grant Requests/Updates

- A. Approval of grant to Mrs. Persico for author visit up to \$600.00.

VI. New Business/Questions

- A. Lunch menu statement about free lunch still needs to be removed.
  - a. Peter will take care of that.

B. Applesauce supply

- a. Peter recently replenished the applesauce supply.

C. Classroom Science Kits

- a. Monroe I Boces will be restocking our kits in the next few weeks.

D. YMCA After-School Program

- a. They are on board for implementation for next fall.
- b. After school, vacation and half-day care will be provided.

E. 1:1 District Technology Initiative

- a. Each building will look different in implementation as it needs to meet different developmental needs.
- b. At the elementary level it is a tool, but not the curriculum.
- c. iPads will be used K-2 and Chromebooks used in grades 3-5.
- d. Tools will be turned in each summer.
- e. The SAMR Model is being used to guide district implementation.
- f. In March, all teachers will be shown file management using Google Docs.
- g. Concerns voiced about defining the boundaries of technology in the MS/HS and the impact of 1:1 on social interaction and movement.
- h. Member asked Mr. Mahan if there could be a district technology forum for parents to ask administrators questions. Mr. Mahan will look into it.

VII. Next Meeting – Feb. 7th at 6:30 pm - Elementary Library