

In Attendance

Eric Chisausky - Principal
Jacquie Korella & Jen Backus - Co-Presidents
Jason Elk & Susan Tobolski - Treasurer and Co-Treasurer
Kim Lowe - Co-Vice President
Nancy Koschik - Communications
Courtney Stach - Secretary

I. Call to Order 9:10am

II. Approval of Minutes (September 19th, 2016 Executive Board Meeting) - Approved.

III. Principal's Report

Auction

There was nice write-up in the Courier about our October 1st Walker Auction. The post-auction vibe was terrific, among staff and families; all had a very good time! Great job at Auction overall, thank you to Katie and Heidi and Walker School P.T.O.

Outdoor Education for 5th Graders

Outdoor Education is this week. You will see chairs cots, waters, bags, and such in the hallways. Wednesday, 10/19/16 is a formal send-off at 9:30-9:45am. Thursday is a team building fun-day, and this is the day that Eric (the principal) goes to Camp Edwards. Friday the kids return home by 12:30pm!

District 181 Curriculum Work

There is a ton of District Work happening right now. Kelly Gault and Dr. White are working hard day and night to develop our content area curricula. Each content area is meeting on a monthly, rotational basis to make sure the standards align to the materials and from that, the curriculum is renewed and developed. What we are finding with math, the standards and the text books are not 100% aligned. You must re-organize the units of study with the Math-in-Focus materials, so they align with what is needed by end of the year for grade level standards.

On 10/17/16, Kelly Gault gave a state of the state, at the Board Meeting. The updated Science Renewal is being worked on on as we speak. The review of the Social Studies and ELA curricula are also happening simultaneously.

They are looking at exploratory/elective (middle school) classes, with foreign languages and physical education, too.

Our administration is trying to strike a balance on how much to pull teachers out of school for these meetings.

Rotary Run/Discussions on a Walker Mascot

Last Sunday was the annual Rotary Run, and it was a great success! Louise Perkowski said the mascot race was a highlight and hilarious. There was discussion of investigating a Walker Wild Cat mascot for the race. Jason and Nancy are digging into options: via Northwestern WildCats and other online mascot options with the intent to save money but get Walker School a mascot.

IV. Treasurer Report

- Gesture sent us a report summary on the Auction.
- Katie sent an invoice; Susan has paid invoices.
- Donations and raffle tickets are documented.
- It was a fantastic night, lots of school spirit.
- There were 11th hour ticket sales.
- There were 166 tickets sold the night of!
- People came in single spouse situations, stag as there was a lot going on, October 1st, 2016.
- There were a ton of 5th grade families! All but two families, attended the event!
- There were several very happy 'new' families thanking us for being so welcoming!
- The current cash position of Walker P.T.O. is: \$76,000
- There was roughly \$22,000 in out-lay, for Gesture, Neat and D.J.
- \$56,489 Net Balance to Date since Auction, however bills are still coming in~

V. President's Report**Auction**

- This was a fantastic event, planned to the tee! We had great attendance and it truly unified Walker School!
- The picture sales were less than anticipated and the Presidents are hoping for more purchases, we've tried (3) times and will do one more round for interest.
- The printing amount was \$1,600.
- Jason Elk is authorized to be an account manager on Gesture to help double check all transactions.
- Last year's summary of the auction: \$21,000 on auction last year, and \$19,700 this year. The food and beverage cut into our profits. We made \$58,000 this year and \$52,000 last year.
- We realized that we really didn't do much better doing it slightly different.
- Jen Backus and Jacquie Korella proposed doing a Dinner Bell day, and partner with a restaurant each month. The restaurants you can go to that will give a percentage to our school. We want the restaurant that are reasonably priced, local and not too far out and those that do take out. Passive fundraising is a great way to make up the gap!
- For Kim and Maggie, it would be wise to create a budget for the new auction goals. Jason can break out the categories on food and beverage, venue, and entertainment. In May, we were already passing out **SAVE THE DATES**.
- Maggie and Kim have some great ideas for next year to share!

Digital Learning Environment

- K-2nd Grade will have shared devices: iPads.
- 3rd-5th Grade will be on shared devices: iPads.
- 6,7, 8th will be on Chrome Books, 1-to-1 technology assignment.
- They are hashing out inventory and funds needed to meet these goals and requirements.

- Dr. White is coming back to the Presidents' group before the holidays.
- We need to entertain the conversation on what happens next.
- We need to gather all of our inventory information at the Walker School level to plan further in the Digital Technology meetings.
- Now, people buy digital rights to the curriculum, so we may veer away from text books all together!

Middle School Start Times

- The district is discussing the possibilities of having the middle schoolers start later than they currently do. There is research about adolescents having and needing more sleep.
- There is a lot of fact-finding information. There is an emotional side to this concept too!

Curriculum Renewal and Learning Updates

- The board approved a new science curriculum.
- They are training teachers over the summer, K-8.
- They are looking to have this new science program in place by the beginning of the school year.
- The teachers are excited and looking forward to the curriculum updates, per Eric.

HMS Referendum

- HMS Project Changes from the March 2016, Referendum to the 2016 November
- Monday, October 24th, 2016 from 9-10am

School Improvement Plan

- Eric to speak at February 2017 General Meeting to the School Improvement Plan.
- P.T.O. General Meeting for Next Week will Cover the following:
 - 10/26 PTO General Meeting Agenda: Allison Voss is our featured Guest
 - How to Help Your Kids to Grow Socially and Emotionally Healthy
 - The Top 10 Things you can do to support your kids will be covered in Allison Voss's presentation.

Discussed & Agreed Upon: Topics for General Business Meeting on 10/25/16

- Digital Learning will be discussed.
- The Post Auction Cash Position. There will be a simple summary.
- Treasurer's Report will capture our current budget standing.
- There will be an update in the Curriculum Learning Update: specifically, Math & Science.

On Line Directory

- The on line directory is up & running.
- The hard-copies will be printed next week.
- The costs for directory being on-line and printed are different from the original projections.
- Lauren Walsh wanted to inform Susan and Jason now.
- If we can get to the point, where we do away with hard-copy directories: it is a \$500 savings.
- My School Anywhere, is the application for your i-phones.

Spelling Bee

- The date on the calendar is: January 25th, 2017 for the Spelling Bee.
- Eric is checking on the district Spelling Bee.
- Chairpeople Kelly Seehausen and Bill Whittier are working on the lists and getting the word out on the Spelling Bee!

Mr. Jose's Last Year

- We are working on monthly appreciation ideas for him January to June.
- Mr. Jose is a very important part of our staff and the teachers, faculty and parents are working on making his last year special.

Science Week

- Kim Lowe and Cristina Cesca reported the Science Week is scheduled: February 6-10th, 2017.
- February 6th, 2017 at 2pm is the ~ 'GETTING EXCITED ABOUT SCIENCE' Assembly.
- Tuesday and Wednesday of Science Week, Tinker Works will do a total of (13) experiments with the kids, in the classroom.
- Thursday is evening, February 9th, 2017, is the Science Fair part of the week!
- In Walker Wednesday News, a monthly challenge that people can do at home with their kids.
- Kim Lowe secured Daily Scoop Jr. Scoop certificates for October and November, 2016, to award students for the for the monthly challenges.
- In WWN, please do the challenges free-form and just work to get your kids excited!
- Nancy Koschik's vision is for this to be a permanent part of Walker School life!
- Her son, Brady was very inspired and building a potato clock when Nancy arrived home last week from his time in Tinker Works!
- Tinker Works has been huge! The quality is excellent, there is a woman on staff to help children. The curriculum is based on age-group specific science!
- Nancy Koschik presented creating a science corner. Is there some area we can have for them to go, for different links for experiments?
- Nancy Kane is doing books on display for Science Week.
- We are tossing around the idea for vendors to sell things at the Science Fair night at the school.
- Bricks for Kids, the idea is to have more science things going on in the gymnasium.

Jen Backus made a motion to increase the Science Fair budget by \$350. Motion was approved.

Year Book Orders

- We have sold; 172 year books and there are 271 kids.
- In October, it's 10% off the regular purchase price.
- In November, it's 5% off the regular purchase price.

Box Tops

- Kim Lowe is collecting, and presenting the box top collections to the parents.
- There is a way to keep kids looking for Box Tops! We can glue and tape box tops on a worksheet, monthly.
- Jan has the PDF for the Halloween Box Top flyer for the lower grades.

VII. Upcoming Dates and Events

October 17, 2017

Executive Board Meeting

- a. 10/18 4th Grade In-School Event (Wheels, Levers, Pulleys – DCM)
- b. 10/19-21 5th Grade Outdoor Ed Trip
- c. 10/24 HMS Referendum Presentation @ Walker (9-10am)
- d. 10/25 HMS Referendum Town Hall/School Tour (6:30 – 7:30 pm)
- e. 10/25 D181 Presentation @ Monroe (Providing for Your Loved one) (7-8pm)
- f. 10/26 1st Grade In-School Event (Chem Fun – HTHT)
- g. 11/16 General PTO Meeting (6pm) Post-Poned due to Cubs
- h. 10/27 Speaker Series @ Community House (Fostering Childhood & Teen Success (9:30-11am & 7-8:30pm)
- i. 10/28 Spirit Lunch
- j. 10/31 Halloween Costume Parade (8:45am)
- k. 11/2 All-School SELAS Assembly (Jim “Basketball” Jones)
- l. 11/2 Student Leadership Club
- m. 11/4 No School – Institute Day
- n. 11/6 HMS Referendum Open House/School Tour (1-3pm)
- o. 11/8 – 11/10 Walker Book Fair
- p. 2/15/17 General PTO Meeting (7-8:30pm)
- q. 5/10/17 General PTO Meeting (7-8:30pm)

Meeting Adjourned: 11:05am