

Agenda

PTO Executive Board Meeting

Monday, December 8, 2014

In Attendance:

Eric Chisausky - Principal
Tracy Korbus - PTO President
Anne Deis - PTO President
Lauren Walsh - Vice-President
Dyan Ruth - Vice-President
Margaret Chung - Treasurer
Carolyn Mannarino - Communications
Courtney Stach - Secretary
Lisa Deering - Strategic Planning
Denise Kavuliak - Strategic Planning

I. Call to Order @ 9:07am

II. Reading & Approval of November 3rd Executive Board Meeting

III. Principal's Report

- Welcome on this rainy December morning!
- We are in the busy season and we are focusing on teaching and the learning in class with all the exciting things going on this season.
- Ambulance visit on 12/5/14, it was scary but the situation is under control. The child is in great shape and it was handled very well.
- Apple Purchases with the iPads, the initial goal is 25 new Apple iPad Minis.
- The goal is to have iPads to compliment what is currently in their classroom.
- Phase II on fundraising, a cart of iPads to share amongst the class rooms.
- Apple TVs are purchased and will be installed as soon as they get here.
- We have Apple TVs. - \$100 per Apple TV, 15 total, \$1500 line-item.
- PTO Holiday Luncheon tomorrow, December 9th, 2014. Staff and teachers love it and appreciate being appreciated.
- The Giving and Sharing Assembly tomorrow at 2pm, 12/8/14.
- There were (6) Walker fifth graders who helped Mr. Chisausky pack-up boxes for Hinsdale Community Service.
- The staff and Eric are meeting on ***Put a Lid on Hunger*** this afternoon, amongst other agenda items.
- The Putting the Practices into Action book is also being reviewed at this meeting, from the November 3rd Teacher Institute Day.
- This is a study book to incorporate strategies into mathematical reasoning and teaching.
- As a staff, the book was shared to enhance Professional Development.
- It encompasses how best to meet the common core curriculum needs of our children.
- SELAS week, January 26-30th, 2015. Jill Levin and Tracy are planning how to implement.
- We'll do a review of all of the SELAS themes of the year minimally and then have other plans and information to SEL-A-BRATE SELAS!
- Learning Lab Committee, book lab committee, are creating levels and targeting reading level instruction. There has been a constructive and very positive response to this reorganization.

- **PARCC** assessment, is set to occur sometime between March 3-27th grades 3-5th. Eric said the exact dates are not on the calendar yet.
- Practice tests are out there on the website, if you want to look at the testing procedure.
- Smart Starters Inc, - Kelly from the park district is offering Mondays for typing class.
- Ms. Griffin typing and key-boarding class during lunch or after school, 2nd-5th grades.

IV. Treasurers Report

A. Approval of Budget

- \$87,000 current balance, actual \$86,760
- Kudos to Orange Ruler, almost hit our projected goal.
- Charitable Trust Bureau picked up PTA final return and closed our account.
- The state of Illinois sends their apologies for this mistake, and everything is fixed and fine.
- It's nice working for Heinz and Associates and there is a lot of work, for the tax returns.
- Anything budget-wise that goes over \$100,000 you better be talking to Heinz, because it can be very difficult to justify in retrospect. Heinz won't accept fees, and it's nice to thank them as often as we can.
- Margaret is learning their side of the Heinz business and it is time-consuming.

B. A motion was made to amend the budget for Student Leadership and approved. The motion was to approve, an additional \$5000 for the Strategic Planning in today's Board Meeting December 8th, 2014.

C. A motion was also made to amend the budget for Student Leadership, we are short, as predicted. We should to increase it from \$750 to \$2000 and supplies. Motion was approved.

- Tracey Head emailed in about fifth grade commemorative tiles, \$150 in the student celebration budget.
- Strategic Planning budget, has only \$9,600 left and that was a concern.

D. You are only allowed (2) tax deductible events a year, so as a Treasurer you have to plan.

V. Strategic Planning - Lisa Deering and Denise Kavuliak

- What is the status on the A-Z application? This question was directed to Eric Chisausky.
- These are Learning Applications, Raz for Kids and an app version of Reading A-Z.
- The process has been going on a long-time, and Strategic Planning is urging Eric to keep on it with the district approval process and expedite.
- The applications are already district approved and provided, so this should be easy but is taking a long time to acquire.
- It's \$100 per class, kindergarten, Patti Fahlberg requested these apps and so we need (6) applications total.
- iPad Mini-Twos are on the table for discussion.
- There are 4 iPad minis in each classroom, teachers want 4 more per classroom.
- First Grade and Second Grade's are smaller sized classes, do they need the same number of iPads?
- The overall wish list is 40-iPads and \$600 for the two learning applications- Raz and A to Z, application.
- There is a one-month disbursal time-period so we could order and then pay at the end of the month.

- Lisa Deering is reviving the box top collection, January collection, and 5th graders will collect and bundle.
- School Supply Kit Discussion for 2016- It was discussed to pull the Art Portfolio, and then add the sundry items back into the cost of the kit.
- Example: 1st Grade \$4.00 calculator, ear buds, 4th grade calculators, 4th and 5th grade cost of the assignment notebook.
- Perhaps, the only one to add into registration as a separate line item is \$3.50 assignment notebook? Jan Martin said that the assignment notebook could be located under the milk purchase box, and it should be labeled as a mandatory purchase for 4th and 5th graders.
- The suggestion was to add whatever ancillary supplies that can be added back-in, get added back-into the total cost of the supply kit.
- Denise Kavuliak thinks she resolved the art portfolio issue with Hillary Andrlik for the kindergartners.
- Eric is investigating the logistics of delivering school supplies to the classrooms earlier next year, like in August before classes begin.

VI. Communications Report

- Save the Date for the Auction for March 7th 2015
- We should communicate what we are doing with the FUN RUN money before we start talking up the Auction.
- In 2015, parents will want to know, what we are doing with the money we are collecting.
- We are going to be ordering 40 iPads, and Eric just reaching out on the order process.
- We were going to put out there how the technology is being used. We need to offer parents a view of what we are doing with them.
- The Auction Committee is working on a slide show to organize materials on how monies are being allocated and so parents can see what and how is being used in the classroom.

VII. President's Report - Anne Deis

RECAP of the D181 Presidents' Meeting

- Elm School has an online store. Spirit wear was on there, and you can donate anytime. It eliminates checks coming in and streamlines fundraising.
- Dr. White is still researching all-day Kindergarten.
- Dr. White is working on slowing things down in our common core curriculum.
- Online registration is being tested and plans for automation are 2015-2016.
- Madison showed their web site.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Student Leadership Team

- December 11, 2014 is the next Leadership Meeting.
- Playground and Lunchroom behavior scenarios are a focus of Student Leadership.
- Student Leadership bands will be handed out for exceptional behavior.
- Target gift card, Learning Express, Daily Scoop- \$10 or \$5 are also an option to help reward the leaders at Walker School.

B. Staff Appreciation

- Luncheon scheduled for Tuesday, December 9th and everyone's excited to be together!
- Next year, the gifts at Christmas are not necessary. Teachers like the luncheon so much.

- The teachers just like getting together and they would like one more lunch a year, versus the gifts.

C. Auction

- Auction Items are being gathered.
- Great Band - is the entertainment, the Hollywood Glam, Photo Booth and the screen of advertisers and get your picture taken. Raffle items, Principal for a Day, coming in for a dinner in the home for a party of (8), another idea is redo a room in your home.

D. Holiday Bazaar

- Monday Evening 4:30-7pm, Tuesday Lunch/After School & Wednesday Evening from 4:30-7pm
- A suggestion was made to try and combine the Holiday Bazaar and Book Fair in 2015-2016.

E. SELAS

- Compassion is the new word and need a quote.
- Carolyn and Biliana are handling the new quote and updating of the website.

IX. New Business

A. Principal's Corner

- This will be a go-to place for parents on topical items.
- PARCC and other things that would be of importance would fall under Eric's updates.
- The principal's corner will air (1) time a month.

B. Keyboarding

- Classes being offered at Walker School in January 2015 on Mondays and at the park district on Fridays.

C. 2nd Meeting with Dr. White and Dr. Schneider

- Mary Henevan from Madison School to help him with PR
- Option for another meeting or Q & A.

D. District PR Initiative

- Things that parents want to hear about at the district level.

E. A to Z Application

- Eric is working on this at the district level.

Meeting Adjourned 11:20am