

Whitehills School Association
Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2016
7:00 PM

- I. Approval of February Minutes
 - a. Motioned and Approved

- II. Approval of March Agenda
 - a. Motioned and Approved

- III. Teacher Report – Clyma
 - a. Playgroundpalooza was wonderful. Kids are talking about it and also had a great time. Nice that they could something fun in school. Some comments about it being a little expensive, but it was in line with Marble Spaghetti Dinner plus we had a dance and the auction.
 - b. Snow days put teachers very behind in testing for the end of the marking period. They are having us do a lot of one-on-one testing now all at once instead of being able to spread it out.
 - c. Laugh Yourself Silly is going well. Kids tell a joke in the morning and kids repeat throughout the day.
 - d. Bikers for Books Program – they come on motorcycles and raise money for books for your school.
 - e. Kids are excited about the Science Fair, but some parents are worried about 1st graders being too young to do projects, but teachers have told them projects can be simple. Poster boards are in the office for those who need them.
 - a. This Friday Science Club will be working on Science Fair Project ideas.
 - b. There will probably not be food because the nature of the projects will be touching things that shouldn't be mixed with food.

- IV. Principal Report
 - a. Thank you for the Playgroundpalooza fundraising event; there was a lot of positive feedback.
 - b. Report cards will go out March 14 via email; a list of parents that don't have email will receive hard copies, as well as D-K. report cards will be sent out after conferences but due to contract issues that is just the timing that worked out.
 - c. Extra coverage for recess – things have been going much better and there has been additional staff that is going well. The superintendent asked what we needed and this stemmed from that.
 - d. Math interventionist – we meet Thursday to talk about it; it is a personnel issue so it will be a little more to get done.

- e. End of the year grades 3-5 field trip at the Aquatic Center (June 9)
 - a. K-2 grade will go to Patriarche Park – June 8, 2016
 - f. We have a Chinese Club
 - a. Has been delayed due to the snow days but will continue.
 - g. Italian Club
 - a. Only met 2 of the 4 weeks due to snow days. Parents were offered a refund and we hope to try again in the fall.
 - h. Jump Rope Club
 - a. 60 expressed interest.
 - i. Walking School Bus
 - a. All of East Lansing Elementary Schools signed up and it will begin soon.
 - b. We don't have a district coordinator but families will gather and walk to school together and track their miles and those who are participating. This is a one-time event.
 - j. Kindergarten Registration is tomorrow night and every school will have a table where you can register them right there; Thursday, March 17 K registrations are due.
 - k. March 22 from 5:30-7:15pm – Kindergarten Roundup for screening, with possibly adding a little time to each group's screening. We are tweaking the schedule a little to make it a smoother transition from the first group to the second. Angie and Elizabeth can provide popcorn and drinks for parents and kids.
 - l. There will be discussions for class sizes, school of choice and other important information but a lot of factors go into those choices so it's an ongoing thing.
 - m. There is no date yet for the Middle School Information Night yet.
- V. Officers' Report
- a. Nico
 - a. The big change has been in the playground account; Angie sent an email but \$18,000 doesn't account for the Playgroundpalooza Fundraiser; we are in the \$22,500 range now for the playground fund. We should be thinking about it for next year again. We are around \$33,000 in the account. Tax season is coming.
 - b. Angie
 - a. We now have a Go Fund Me campaign if anyone wants to donate to the playground fundraising; if you want 100% of your donation to go to the fund then you can also donate directly.
 - b. If you have a target Red Card, we receive a percentage donation for every purchase so please think of linking your Red Card to Whitehills School.
 - c. Joy
 - a. No updates not covered elsewhere.

- d. Elizabeth
 - a. No updates not covered elsewhere.

VI. Upcoming Events

- a. For anyone that is interested there is a STEAM day if you would like to attend; all ages can attend. There is a sign up link you can find on a flyer that should have been sent home.
- b. The next step for the playground is a “Pennies for Playground” competition with rewards for classes that raise the most money.
- c. Marco’s Pizza night this month is St. Patrick’s Day, and last month’s winning class will have their pizza party that same day.
- d. Science Club is March 11
- e. Science Fair is March 24 from 6:00-8:00pm; we need help with setup still (probably around 5pm). We will need at least 15 tables.
- f. Conferences start next week, so please sign up if you would like to help provide lunch to the teachers.
- g. March 25 – Yearbooks must be ordered, and as the date gets closer Miss Talaski could use help to put together the Yearbook.
- h. Planning meeting will be Monday, March 14 [changed after WSA meeting to Tuesday, March 15] for Carnival at Lyndsey Clayton’s home.
- i. March 29 at 7:00pm at the High School there will be a community conversation about the achievement gap and how to improve upon that.

VII. Future Events

- a. 5th Grade Breakfast
 - a. Looking to doing that the last week of school; Angie will put that together since she has a 5th grader.
- b. Mileage Club
 - 1. Will be starting after spring break (April 11), and Debbie needs a co-chair. Time will be 2:25-2:40pm (K-2) and 2:45-3:00pm (3-5).
 - 2. A recess person could possibly help out since there is a large group of kids who participate.
 - 3. We could possibly get the grass chalked so we don’t have to use cones.

In attendance:

Angie Smith, Nico Gisholt, Joy Campbell, Elizabeth Ivkovich, Andy Wells, Lynne Clyma, Sara Cole-Blankenship, and Ellen Marr