

Whitehills School Association

Meeting Minutes

April 12th, 2016

7:00 PM

- A. Call to order with welcome and sign-in
- B. Approval of March minutes/Old Business
 - Motion to approve and seconded.
- C. Approval of Agenda
 - Motion to approve and seconded.
- D. Teacher Report – Ms. Anderson
 - A lot of book orders are coming in so that has been a great thing.
 - Teachers are in awe of all of the wonderful things that have been planned and we LOVE the luncheons.
 - We were very impressed with the Science Fair, and the Playgroundpalooza dance was wonderful.
 - This year has felt so much more settled in and so different from last year.
 - Kindergarten roundup went well.
 - If the teachers can start talking about things on their wish list for next year, we would like to start budgeting and getting next year's budget drafted. This includes field trips; we would have liked to help fundraise for things like chartered buses for longer trips but we just need to know sooner to be able to help out.
 - There is some confusion about where field trip "donations" go and how much the school district kicks in. The parent associations are just asked to do what they can do to help out, with no dollar amount given and no associations are giving the exact same amount. Maybe the school district could suggest a donation amount to the Parent Associations so that there is some sort of common suggestion.
- E. Principal Report
 - M-Step is underway and fifth grade took the language arts portion today. Third through fifth grade will experience M-Step.
 - The average time was about 2 hours; one student did take until about 3:00pm. It is untimed with a break at lunchtime.
 - This can create some stress for students and we are cognizant of that and giving extra recesses if necessary.
 - Teachers do take time to help students understand that it is not just about what they get on their tests.

- Last year was very difficult, so teachers are adjusting things this year.
 - An email blast was sent out before Spring Break but some parents mentioned not having heard of when the M-Step was going to start.
- Staffing came up today for how many classes there will be for each grade; it is a long process and will be gone over tomorrow. We will not enroll as many school of choice kids as last year so that we can ensure we have enough room. We are doing things now to get ready for next year, including an information sheet for parents to fill out for the teachers to have.
- Each building received \$25,000 from the district. But the funds cannot include personnel. We did start making a wish list that included furniture for the library and the book room.
- There were about 34 kids at Kindergarten Roundup, which includes a number of DK students.

F. Officers Report

- Angie
 - We will be recruiting new officers; Nico is stepping down so we are looking for a new treasurer. We vote in May, so we are looking for nominations. We will vote at the next meeting so please encourage anyone interested to step forward.
 - Mileage Club has started and is going well; going forward, would it be more appropriate for a school staff member to make the judgement call of whether Mileage Club will be cancelled or not so that it isn't up to the parent in charge to make that call?
 - We are ending a little earlier this year due to the Book Fair starting the next week.
 - Yard Cleanup will be Saturday the 16th and we will pick the grounds up, but we will not mulch this year. We will need rakes, and gloves.

G. Middle School Orientation April 18th - 6:30 to 7:30

- Keep spreading the word.

H. Pennies for Playgrounds Winner Mr. Gries! Total Raised \$293.84

- We will work with Mr. Gries on their classroom prize, which will be a pizza party.

I. Science Club April 15th

- They will be working with dry ice, so it should be fun!

- J. Marco's Pizza Night April 21st
- K. Brick sale – May 9th through June 3rd
 - We will just send flyers out like last year and bricks will be put out this summer.
- L. Plant Sale
 - Amy Zaagman offered to do this again.
- M. Book Fair May 23rd through 26th
 - Just a reminder, but we will get a sign up genius up for volunteers.
- N. Teacher Appreciation week May 4th – 8th
- O. 5th Grade Breakfast June 6th
 - Amy Zaagman will help Angie to put that together.
 - We may need a small budget, although we got a lot donated.
- P. All School Day – June 10th
 - We will need a lot of volunteers!!!
 - We also need to think of a good option for having water bottles for all of the kids.
- Q. Round Table
 - The district has offered to help with prepping the grounds; they will help us get it ready to put new equipment down by the fall.
 - We will also be putting out some sort of solution for water to drain at the gaga pit.
 - Mrs. V. did a fundraiser for the heart association; there are some questions concerning if the jump roping is required or if the focus was too focused on the trinkets they received.

Carnival Planning

- May 6th!!
- Toilet Paper Toss – tossing toilet paper into old toilets
-We would love a hall of terror and maybe if we could get a Boy Scout group to help make it.
- Cake Walk – Amy Sayers
- Hoop the food
- Duck
- Bounce House – one for younger and one for older kids.
- Lollipop Tree
- Bullseye (one the ground) with the gaga pit.
- Kona Truck and Elephant Ears
- Dunk Tank – if teachers would be okay being dunked
- Food – walking tacos and popcorn

- No water bottles but little cups and water jugs
- Sign Up Genius' are complete and will be sent out soon.
- 50/50 is not going to happen, but Becky, Jen, and Amy are going to do something similar to last year but make it smaller.

Attendees:

Nico

Joy

Elizabeth

Angie

Lynsey

Sarah Cole-Blankenship

Kim Anderson

Jennifer Gorchow

Andy Wells

Jamie Fitzgerald

Rachel