October 16, 2018

General PTA Meeting
Whittier School

This general meeting of Whittier's PTA was held at Emmett's Brewing Co.

There were 17 people in attendance.

Call to meeting @ 7:08 pm

Susan: thank you for coming to first offsite meeting!
Guest speaker:

- New technology beginning in DG
- KOHA education foundation for district 58 – helps to raise money for district 58 schools – scholarships/grants – fundraising program involving local businesses that will support any school – download app and choose Whittier!
- Looking at expenses in budget – can put some campaigns on the app such as birthday books etc – verification code – has seen nice movement on the app, some restaurants will do wine/cheese night to get to know to some local vendors "support local, they'll support us back"
- Can use facebook or google for sign in
- Can split up giving i.e. if you have children at both Whittier and Herrick
- Once Whittier is chosen you can see merchants available
- Encourages local support vs shopping big chain stores
- High schools are included as well
- Take a picture of receipt, both merchant and you get notices of amount
- Easy way to not push fundraising
- Goal is at $1000 currently, can be changed in order to receive checks more promptly (once goal has been attained, check is in the mail)
- Looking for new board members on the education foundation to help volunteer
- Members thanked

Secretary's Report

- Minutes approval request 9/4/18
- Motion to approve by Allison Saegebrecht – seconded by Addie Pampalone, motion passed

Treasurer's Report- Lori Achilles

- Current financials presented
- No questions

Ms. Coleman (LRC)

- New tables donated by Denise Lazar's law firm, working out very well, chairs are ok. Not sure about longevity
- Book fair last week – 33% less than fall sale (no wish lists created because of holiday weekend)
- $4K worth of books - $750 will be for the library
- Will look into different avenues for next year if PTC are around this time, i.e. around another event, ask for the books to be longer

- Q will Anderson's allow shopping at their store – coupons were given once but very few were used. Online shop was also available, but complicated however may revisit this idea in the future
- Through Scholastic you cannot customize book fair vs. through Ms Coleman – author visits are also free through Anderson's, don't always get authors you want but usually get some pretty big names. Publisher's ask us to sell the books from the author coming. Publisher's ask for $500 in book sales in exchange for the author but usually it's around half.
- In process to choose book for One Book One School (likely around February)
- 6th graders – 3D printing software, partnership with DG tech dept – Tasha Squires O'Neill Librarian to get votes
- Buying tack for make or space project - things become obsolete very quickly… green screen request
- Busy but fun!

4th Grade Teachers

- Math - place value through millions – vocab – multiplication, large numbers times one digit, moving into double digits – properties of multiplication for next two weeks – then long division
- Science – magnetism and electricity, circuits – Fri will attend STEM pilot meeting
- Solar System- different units at different times, size, distance of planets, comets, asteroids, meteors, constellations
- Social Studies – continents oceans political science cultures how they have contributed in our society – start with the southwest
- Reading/Writing new because of the new benchmark – stories of ficition and non ficiton as related to state govt – mini lessons with different skills, what captions in pictures help us to learn, context clues, Writing: personal letter, things you should include – how the govt could have helped next week unit 2 – fiction in fairy tales understand POV, students were excited to read the final segment of the government section

Co President's

- Wish list approval – motion to approve by Addie 1st, 2nd by Allison Saegebrecht
- Propose to amend by laws – article 8 section 6 quorum needed to consist 15 members plus two officers – will need 15 to vote at December's meeting -
- Can be helpful to send out another type of reminder to come to the PTA meeting. Emphasize that quorum is needed
- Val Hardy – idea that each class is designated to attend PTA meetings and pass back info to those parents
- Sarah Bogaczyk – heard that it's intimidating to go to a meeting, "not sure of the value of attending – why should I come?"
- Goal this year is to get more PTA involvement at meetings at events – coffee with the presidents idea will begin in November – open to switch things up and increase interest
- Q is there babysitting available usually? YES but not at offsite meetings, felt making a more social aspect to it – possibly plan an event in accordance with the meeting to draw attendees?
- Vote on standing rules needed – 2 standing rules, not modified only need to be ratified – shorter one is who has access to Whittier weekly Val Hardy 1st 2nd by Katie Baldwin – vote passed unanimously - 2nd standing rule was previously in place and only needs to be Val 1st - 2nd by Kate Baldwin vote passed unanimously

- Jenn, Susan, Mr. Krugman attended PTA district 58 presentation on strategic planning – Addie: very informative on curriculum, lots of discussion on science standards – helpful info, curriculum workshop,
- Council filled need for strategic plan volunteers -
- 3 board seats will be up for reelection Nov 26th at 7pm at Kingsley
- ELL teacher Sandra requested $54 to print color copies motion to approve 1st Katie Baldwin, 2nd by Val Hardy, motion approved unanimously
- Rebate on School Supplies – would like to motion to approve to move to Angel Fund - 1st by – Val second motion approved unanimously
- $110 from DG Girls Day Out to capital fund from __ to purchase mats for the gym – motion needed to approved Val Hardy 1st Katie Baldwin 2nd, motion passe d
- Approx 20 people attended Evereve fundraiser, rasied $1000+ for capital fund

Addie Pampalone

- Board of Ed Meeting 2 weeks ago
- Justin Sisul asst supt. stated all on distict website – MAP scores, initial scores are back, end of the month will be final results- growth improved immensely – PARCC 2018 were much higher than previously – outside company came in to look at enrollment for projection - 2nd grade projected to be higher than they thought (entire district) K was much higher than initially projected, Herrick big growth vs O'Neill, changing boundaries discussion began – looking at middle schools vs junior high – different council will be looking at this idea -El Sierra enrollment is down –
- 320 total students at Whittier currently, up from last year
- Push for A/C, talks of referendum
- Goal in 1st meeting was to push out strategic plan pushed out quickly

Mr. Krugman

- Reflections program – HEROES AROUND ME
- Mr. Belonio will have workshops
- Hoping early conferences were helpful, did away with students reporting as wel
- student led PTC in spring -
- Absence/tardy info 10% is chronic truancy, % attendance rate – this has to be reported
- District said important to attend every day
- More communication coming out around strategic plan – 4 year plan – 3 big ambitious goals, focus on learning – connect community – secure future – on learning: rigor (parents and teachers have different definitions of rigor), curriculum itself ELA, STEM/science, social studies . Making sure we're prepping kids
- SEESAW – communication tool, big push for every teacher to use it
- Facilities – safety, security, A/C huge concern. Grades 6-8 middle schools- will be looking at boundaries – Finance, spending money we have appropriately, referendum has not been around for a long time – but in talks – quarterly updates will come through
- PARCC celebration – taken a hit on scores, have not felt that it's a good measurement on learning, don't teach to the test, but different attitude – looked at it differently – state requirement for 3-8, one test in the spring. Whittier did phenomenal! Spirng 2017 ELA was 44.4%, Spring 62%, highest score of any elem in district 58 – spring 2017 49% math, 60.6% in spring 2018. Getting message out to parents that its important to take the test etc helped. New legislation replacing no child left behind – 4 tier rating system.
- Very proud of our kids! Will do a celebration for achieving these scores.

- PARCC will not be taken next year – contract was awarded to another company for new test development
- Q to Mr Krugman what does that mean when you hear no more PARCC? - Doesn't matter to us what the test is, just important that we're meeting state standards. Matters which one works best for our area. doesn't matter what the assessment is. Affects high school and college readiness. Keeping doing what we're doing!
- Q To mr. k – based on parcc scores tier 1, 2, 3 etc, if we get to tier 3 we get money? Handful of schools had low scores. Last year El Sierra was tier 3, due to their subgroups. Look at what they are underperforming in.
- Calendar provided to Secretary
- RRWEEK – theme for take a stand, throw in Choose KIND message

Committee Reports

- Jeff Paul – Lori has numbers on funds – donated mascot outfit from Longino's – in PTA possession – Cindy & Paul on team for next year! NO date for next year, numbers do not reflect all sponsors and Experiences
- Susan: Reflections!
- Sarah: Variety Show – super exctied to announce date – teaser video by Matt Croft – 90 seconds in length – showcase of talent!! Should have fun with this, formalizing acts earlier – Sat march 9th (one month later) december meeting to roll out details, call for submissions, jan 14th – start planting the seed = come ready to submit music, keep it clean, scripts ready for non-musical acts, this is the rough timing, debuted theme Just Watch Us Now, tying into Choose KIND -
- Family Fun next tuesday Chipotle (more generous donation compared to other vendors) mod pizza city bbq in the future -
- WRECK fall session is full – kits ordered for 5th/6th graders which will begin in Jan
- Math Night Nov 7th 6:30-7:30– looking for volunteers to help – math is going to be designed like an escape room (new!)
- Spring Fundraiser – possibly have volunteers, and location
- Reading Games – sign up has begun, any individuals want to sign up can be added to any team – March 16th reading lists are out for grades 3-8

New Business

none

Meeting adjourned 8:47pm
Minutes scribed by Rachel Carrero