PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION OF WHITTIER SCHOOL
Downers Grove, Illinois
PTA MEETING MINUTES
October 20, 2015

The General Meeting of the Whittier School PTA was held on October 20th, 2015, in the Whittier School Learning Resource Center (LRC).

There were 26 people in attendance.

Guest Speaker:

What's Happening in 3rd Grade – Mrs. Modine and Mrs. Jurnik

- Thank you, the teachers very much appreciate it!
- Words their Way – a way to differentiate spelling working and ability to group students by level. Students spell and sort based on patterns using their iPads. Two apps: ShowMe and Explain Everything (extremely hands-on). Explain Everything records students voices and can record their selves. Parents think its awesome!
- Working with instructional coaches / teachers to help with tools and assessments.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Amy Ihde requested September 2015 minutes be approved. Rita Brezia put forth a motion and Suzy Ennis seconded. Motion was approved

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- $16,700 **estimated** raised from Jaguar Jog
- Balance sheet was presented – any questions, please let Corrine know. She added a snapshot of the cash balance
- As of the October meeting, cash balance is $59,183. Playground, Fun Lunch, Expenses Not Approved but Not Paid, Family Fun has been removed
- Audit form was presented

CO-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Huge thank you to the Jaguar Jog; so amazing and such a great community event. Thank you to Amy Cable and team for a successful event
- From September 2015 Meeting*: We have had some requests from members of our community, but not part of Whittier school, who have asked to be part of our PTA. They would have access to our directories, school calendar, have a vote, etc. Discussion ensued that while most intentions are good, however, it could be used for nefarious purposes. Val Hardy is going to check with the PTA Council that we have the ability to change our bylines to say something to the effect "PTA is only open to families with current students at Whittier".*
- Upon further research, it was determined we cannot change our bylaws, however we can change membership guides by creating a Standing Rule (standing rules are by year and must be re-approved each year)
    - "In order to ensure the welfare of the children attending Whittier Elementary School, access to the protected elements of the PTA website (e.g. directory) as well as the Whitter Weekly newsletter and all social media attached to the PTA will be only for teachers and other employees of District 58 and parents / guardians of current Whittier students"
    - Val Hardy put forth a motion to vote to enact the standing rule and it was approved unanimously
    - Rita Brezina is going to determine how to only allow FB administrators to approve members. FB administrators are Rita Brezina, Amy Ihde and Andrea Knudson

- Anytime someone asks to join the PTA, and Andrea Knudson does not recognize the name, she calls the front office to verify they are in fact a Whitter family
    - One idea is on the PTA registration online, put something in place where if you don't have a child you cannot register

Principal's Report:

- Mrs. Lyons is making a request for safety patrol – its for 5th and 6th graders and approximately 100 student participate or 99% of kids participate. Kids need to pass the test and they can retake until they pass. Safety Patrol is here before and after school helping the adults keep kids in check. As a reward at the end of the year, the kids go to the zoo, the kids love it! It really patrols service learning and responsibility. The bus to go to the zoo is approximately $670. There are times that supplies such as belts need to be replenished. Also hard-working kids are recognized by giving badges. Obviously, the safety patrol is having a hard time operating within their budget. Historically, the budget was $350. Mrs. Lyons is requesting an increased budget to $900. Amy Toth moves we increase the budget for safety patrol in the amount of $900 and Melissa Rausch seconded.
- Requested approval for safety patrol field trip which was over the budgeted amount by $666.60 includes balance of bus cost as a thank you for safety patrol. Rita Brezina and Suzy Ennis moved a motion to approve. Due to it being over $500, it will be approved next month. Melissa Rausch moves to approve and Rita Brezina passed unanimously
- Zed came for an assembly – a pink order form came home. Message was Work, Study, Learn, try Great messages
- One Book One School 88 families participating in Wonder – over 1/3 of students is participating. Trivia contest if going well. Names are announced and kid get prizes from the office. People will be visiting from different charitable organization. Families can make military cards and key chains. Student Council is hosting a food drive in-conjunction with the book The One and Only Ivan. There will be a service project with Feed My Starving Children
- For Halloween, students will no longer go home at lunch. This is a district wide decision based on safety. Students will change into costumes at school. Parade is at 1:30 outside weather permitting. Classroom parties at 2:00; fresh juice, bottled water, veggies and fruit only
- Two additional wish list items were presented. Mrs. Coleman has requested the Reading Game Books (and book ends to display the items) $617.90. Ms. Lyons requested a $115 rolling double sided dry-erase easel
- Mrs. Krygeris was awarded her grant
- Mr. Krugman is working on a Pepperidge Farm Grant for the Playground – its due end of December and is in process of gathering information. Two amounts are award twice $7500 for $12,500 available only to communities where there are Campbells operating facilities present. You can apply once a year
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Committee Reports:

Playground – Website is up-to-date. Ask Melissa for notes. Penny Wars first week of February

Reflections – Oct. 30 is deadline. There is a bin in the office the students can turn in their art. It's imperative to follow directions for submissions found on Website.

Math and Science Night – Math Night is October 28 from 6:30 – 8:00 for 4th -6th graders. They could use one or two volunteers. Evite with be sent soon. Science night is February 24th open to all graes

DI – All teams have their manuals and are ready to go. Financial obligations have been communicated to teams

Book fair – Held in LRC all week long. Hosted by Anderson's. Volunteers are needed, please email Jen Milke. Reading Games books will be available. Store will be open on the 19th from 3:00 – 8:00 and then on Friday from 3:00-6:00. Goal of book fair is to pay for LRC budget

OLD BUSINESS:
Wish List was approved

- Wish list was revealed, however, there might be additions. Total amount presented was $7489.95
  - Listening Center (Mrs. Plepel) $200
  - Whiteboard Skins 2 (Mrs. Bartkowiak & Mr. Szuck) $900
  - Electric Pencil Sharpeners 2 (Mrs. Jurinek & Mrs. Modine) $90
  - Kidney bean shaped table (Miss Carey) $300
  - Scholastic Scope Subscription (Mrs. Kygeris) $227.45
  - Digital Camera (Miss Vanacora) $200
  - Dry Erase Easel (Mrs. Jurinek) $225
  - Imagination Journals (1st Grade) $270
  - Wilson Reading Supplemental Materials ($350)
  - Ball Inflator (Mr. Winters) $200
  - Fountas & Pinnell Ready (intermediate) $412.50
  - Water Fountain Water Bottle Fillers – 2)$3600
  - Social Work (SEL) Resource (Mrs. Felker) $515

NEW BUSINESS:

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Minutes scribed by: Amy Ihde

October 20, 2015