PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION OF WHITTIER SCHOOL
Downers Grove, Illinois
PTA MEETING MINUTES
March 15, 2016

The General Meeting of the Whittier School PTA was held on March 15th, 2016, in the Whittier School Learning Resource Center (LRC).

There were 31 people in attendance.

Guest Speaker:

What's Happening in Kindergarten – Mrs. Plepel

- All day Kindergarten approved district-wide
- District will still offer a half-day program
- Kindergarten teachers are collaborating on the upcoming change
- Mrs. Plepel is excited about the change
- Dr. Seuss week just completed
- The Chicks are Coming! Around mid-April

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Amy Ihde requested February 2016 minutes be approved. Val Hardy put forth a motion and Melissa Rausch seconded. Motion was approved

Playground Presentation

At the February 2016 General PTA a motion was made to earmark up to $25,000 from fundraising efforts in 2016/2017.

The PTA has excess reserve, if we spent the $25,000, there is still $29,000 in the reserve.

PTA General Population voted in approval of motion to earmark up to $25,000 from fundraising effort in 2016/2017.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Balance sheet was presented as of the March 2016, cash balance is $54,802.34. Playground, Fun Lunch, Expenses Not Approved but Not Paid, Family Fun has been removed
- In 2015, PTA was incorporated. Cost to incorporate was $300 to State of IL, attorney fees and filing fees. We need to complete a tax return for the end of the old entity and submit a tax return for the new entity
- Corrine's request of $650 to cover the above costs was approved. Rita Brezina put forth motion Jen Milke seconded, motion carried

CO-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Shadow Variety Show Committee position has not been filled yet.
- Debbie Leventhal has resigned from PTA President. Her family has moved from the district. Tiffany Kuelthau will continue as President
- By Laws Change Proposal:

- Article 8 Section 1 regarding the number of General PTA meetings. Now we require seven meetings, would like to change to five general meetings. CHANGE: Regularly scheduled meetings of WHITTIER PTA shall be held at least 5 times during the school year
- Article 6 Section 2B regarding officer elections, want to make bylaws less specific and change time from April to In the Spring. CHANGE: Officers shall be elected by ballet in the Spring

Principal's Report:

- OKEEP program will be modeled after the Section 8 schools
  - Two kindergartens rooms will be 1 and 2, currently outfitting the rooms to fit their needs
  - Half-day program is in the morning - the half day children will be dismissed at lunch
  - Morning will be curriculum based, afternoon is more enrichment such as PE
  - OKEEP is school activity fees plus $2,450 / student for the year
  - Half-day remains the same, just activity fees
- Whittier Read Homelessness and Poverty activity was successful with a speaker from Bridge Connections and included three family activities
- Jump Rope for Heart - $7,818.25 raised
- 87 Teams participated in the Reading Games, kids had a blast. Thank You to the PTA, Mrs. Girgits and Mrs. Krygeris
- Destination Imagination – Nine Whittier teams competed, five team placed in the top three and those teams will be going to state
- Survey for the District 58 sent from Megan Hewett, opportunity to provide feedback to district regarding longitudinal testing
- 2016/2017 Starting Date, Monday August 29, 2016 first day of school
- 2016/2017 Winter Break Monday December 19, 2016
- 2016/2017 Last Day June 9, 2017
- PARCC Testing continues this week; make-ups next week
- March 18: Student Count Spirit Day – Funny T-Shirt Day, Fun Lunch
- March 22: All School Field Trip to DGNHS
- March 23: Kids' Council
- March 24: End of 3rd QTR, Student Council Dress in Beach Wear, Spring Break Room Parties
- March 25 – April 1 Spring Break, No School
- April 4 – School resumes
- April 8 – Blue & Gold Spirit Day, Kindergarten Round-Up, Fun Lunch, PTA Playground Fundraiser
- April 11 – Grade 3/4 Music Program 9:00 AM, BOE Meeting 7:00 PM
- April 12 – McTeacher Night 4:00-7:00, PTA Meeting 7:00

Committee Reports:

Book Fair – Spring Book Fair, we need volunteers. Sign-up sheets will be available before spring break. Student book wish list as well as teacher book wish list will be available again. Do not send money with students to school, parents need to be present to purchase books. As chair, Jen Milke wishes to see the profit stay in the LRC

Chess Club – Spring session starts March 21 and goes for 8 weeks. Online signup is available

Teacher Appreciation – takes place week of May 2 to May 6, Rita Brezina is open to ideas, please do not hesitate to contact her

Playground Committee – Thank you everyone for reaching deep for their coins. Penny Wars brought in $4021.30. Thank you to the faculty and staff for embracing the Penny Wars. Mrs. Lyons class was the winner. The committee will continue to fundraise. End of school year, World's Finest Chocolate sales will take place. In addition, there will be a fundraiser at the Tivoli. If interested in helping, please contact Melissa Rausch

Reflections –

Science Night – Great night! 45 families attended

Jaguar Jog – Cindy Maquet wrote a personal check $1050 to cover the Village Council fee, typically the PTA directly pays the village. It's the same expense from previous year, in the year past, the PTA went ahead Melissa Rausch put forth a motion to reimburse the Maquet the family in the amount of $1050 to cover the Jaguar Jog expenses.

Nominating Committee: put forth the following names, next month slate will be nominated:

Co-Vice Presidents – Adam Hill and John Gianelle

Treasurer – Lori Achilles

Secretary – Rachel Carrero

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: April Meeting is April 12, 2016
Open House is April 28 from 6:30-8:00

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Minutes scribed by: Amy Ihde

March15, 2016