WHITTIER PTA MINUTES

January 17, 2017

PTA of Whittier School

Downers Grove, Illinois

The General Meeting of the Whittier School PTA was held on January 17, 2017 in the Whittier School Learning Resource Center (LRC). There were 21 people in attendance.

Call to meeting at 7:05pm.

Secretary's Report

- Secretary Rachel Carrero asked if there were any needed amendments to the 11/29/16 minutes. No requests were made, minutes were declared as approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer Lori Achilles announced taxes for last year have been filed
- Stated new audit guidelines will be added to bylaws

First Grade Guest Speakers Mrs. Richards and Mrs. Quill

- Language Arts: 5 Senses Writing using hot cocoa sampling, hamburger paragraph learning, adding "pizzazz" words to make writing more interesting
- MAP testing completed on iPads
- Science: Rock Unit – solids to liquids
- Social Studies: Maps
- Math: Numbers 1-20 addition and subtraction

Board of Education Candidates Guest Speakers

Greg Harris

- His children attend District 58 Schools
- Current educator @ Valley View (Romeoville/Bolingbrook) – job entails data and program evaulation
- Served on teacher's union board one term
- Possesses Master's and Doctoral degrees
- Dedicated to the kids, community, listening to both sides

Sue Housden

- Previously a K-8 teacher in Midlothian, a diverse population district
- Previous president of teacher's union
- Dedicated to community
- Resides in Downers Grove, Belle Aire school boundary
- Own karate studio in Downers Grove, enjoys building future leaders @ the studio
- Master's degree in Special Education and Administration (completed policy classes)
- Wants to hear all opinions, be an open door

Beth Taylor

- 34 year Downers Grove resident
- Retired teacher from Pierce Downer School
- Believe BOE needs "someone from the trenches"
- Feels strongly about keeping a teacher on the board
- Keep tax dollars where the kids are

President's Report

- PTA holiday gifts for teachers has overage of $75, requests motion to approve overage
  Jen Mielke made a motion to approve, Ann Russell seconded, motion passed unanimously
- Accountant fees of $325 are owned from May, 2016, requests motion to approve payment to accountant. Jen Mielke made motion to approve, motion seconded by Carrie Grebel, motion passed unanimously
- Nominating committee needs three volunteers to serve. The following volunteered to serve and were approved by unanimous vote: Melissa Rausch, Sarah Bogacyk, Carla Giannelli
- Bylaw Committee needs three volunteers to serve. The following volunteers to serve and were approved by unanimous vote: Addie Pampalone, Karrie Donat, and Jen Mielke
- PTA Council looking for new volunteers to serve next for the needed roles of President/VP/Secretary/Treasurer. Contact Val Hardy. Also in need of a committee volunteer.
- Additional PTA Meeting scheduled for April 25.

Principal's Report

- Thank you from staff for luncheon and gifts
- Thank you for mitten drive gifts, families very much appreciated generosity
- Thank you PTA Angel Fun for two scholarships: 1 Chess Scholars, 1 Young Rembrandts

Spring Fundraiser

- Date set for Friday, April 7. In need of volunteers.
- Donations requested for bidding
- More details to come

Budget Discussion

- Q: will the PTA address budget before promising funds? A by Karrie Donat – Yes, and PTA will look at budget to possibly decrease some expenditures for next year
- Surveys will go out to committee chairs to verify amount budgeted is correct
- Karrie Donat stated Destination Imagination becoming cost prohibitive due to increase in enrollment and the PTA picking up the cost for each enrollment. Will look into passing on cost to parents.

Angel Fund

- Not enough $ to cover all expenses in fund (incl backpacks/scholarships)
- Q made if overage in fun lunch AF donations go to the general fund or remain as fun lunch only

Discussion

- Karrie Donat voiced what our current reserve should remain as (have a standing rule in bylaws?)
- When there are openings for committees this will be announced in the Whittier Weekly

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Minutes scribed by Rachel Carrero