WHITTIER PTA MINUTES

March 21, 2017

PTA of Whittier School

Downers Grove, IL

The general meeting of the Whittier School PTA was held on March 21, 2017 in the Learning Resource Center. There were 22 people in attendance.

Call to meeting @ 7:05 p.m.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Rachel Carrero requested motion to approve minutes. Motion put forth by Jen Mielke, motion seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

- Credit card swiper now available!

6th Grade Teachers Guest Speakers

- Reading: New books available- graphic novels, James Patterson
- Genocide Unit begins post Spring Break (Skokie Holocaust Museum Field Trip, "teaching trunk")
- Thank you to PTA for field trip $ and resources
- Mock trial @ DuPage County Courthouse end of April
- Art Institute Field trip by end of year

LRC Update – Kelly Coleman

- Thank you PTA for support
- Author Fest coming up
- Young Author's winners announced
- Spring Book Fair 4/25-4/27 – volunteers needed
- Summer reading program will again be avail
- Update by grade:
  K- story elements, setting/plot
  1st – MAP Skills, mystery Skype
  2nd – Photo essay
  3rd – Chicago architecture
  4th – Coding Skills, Scratch Jr.
  5th – Essential questions, research questions

6th – CYOA stories

Nominating Committee – Melissa Rausch

- Nominate for VP next year Susan Lorenc and Jen DiCosola
- Vote April 25th

President's Report:

$111 Incorporation Renewal Motion Request

- Jen Mielke put forth motion
- Addie Pampalone 2nd
- Motion passed unanimously

'17/'18 Committee Openings

'17/'18 Proposed Budget

- Sit 30 days
- Up for discussion

Principal's Report

- PARCC last day tomorrow
- @Kids Council – recognized Young Author's winners
- Recognized DI Teams (5 out of 8 going to state competition)
- 5/6th Choir Musical last night, "Best one yet!"
- Kindergarten roundup April 7th
- Whittier Open House April 27th 5:30-7
- All Things Whittier Experiences – 9 items
- '17/'18 Registration Planning
- Fri end of 3rd Q
- PE "Fit Fair"@ O'Neill Middle School April 13th
- April 24th BOE meeting

Playground Report – Pam McGinn

- July groundbreaking – will be ready for the new school year
- Fundraising complete (Plaque donations open)
- Budget within $100,000
- Bid slightly above $90,000, but will be ok

Spring Fundraiser Report – Michelle Aleksiunas, Carrie Grebel

- Tables will compete – no need to form teams

- Costumes encouraged
- Class baskets range $100-250
- Can pay at the door $30 by CC, $25 before
- Cash bar, ATM on site

BOE Participation

- Thank you making school beautiful with new playground, raising funds
- Encourage informal questions to BOE
- Has been asked for advice on how to raise $ like Whittier PTA, which is ahead of its time

Superintendent Kari Cremascoli

- Strategic goals action plan
- Goals based on last year's progress
- Mid-year & End of year report
- MAP blueprints
- ELA piloted 5th grade @ Whittier
- May meeting continue with pilot
- SEL expanded
- Finance:
  Maintenance project cont'd
  A/C in school happens under referendum (strained financially, very expensive, state funding is down)
  Salary/Benefits Continue to increase
  Working for balanced budget
- Technology
  Increasing Chromebook use, iPad use to decrease
- Needs involvement from committees to progress on new strategic plan – make your voice heard
- BOE uses facilitator for strategic planning (focus groups)

Question posed on if Spring Fundraiser is no longer necessary due to playground fundraising complete

- VP Adam Hill stated still plan on having Spring Fundraiser – fun for adults

Request made for Penny Wars again – could do it for charity?

Principal Krugman

- announced $600 was raised for St. Jude's
- PARCC testing question made to Mr. Krugman re: being right before Spring Break. Mr. K stated he does not want to test all day and interrupt Specials, did not work out this year to schedule it differently

7:45 p.m. meeting adjourned

Minutes scribed by Rachel Carrero.