WHITTIER PTA MINUTES

September 20, 2017

PTA of Whittier School

Downers Grove, Illinois

The General Meeting of the Whittier School PTA was held on September 20, 2017 in the Whittier School Learning Resource Center (LRC).

There were 29 people in attendance.

GUEST SPEAKERS

What's Happening in 4th Grade

Mr. Miller

- Math – place value in multiplication/division
- Social Studies – regions of the US
- Science – solar system

Ms. Carey

- Reading - Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing (analyzing characters)
- Language Arts/Writing – capitalization rules, narrative essays
- Science – weather (temperature)

MAVInS - Susan Lorenc

- MAVInS stands for Mothers Against Violence in Schools
- Started by Sarah Bogacyk, Susan Lorenc, and Lester Elem School moms
- More information can be found on Facebook page
- 3 Pillar Approach: Parent Education, Empathy Education From The Start, Provide Tools As They Grow
- Adapted Sandy Hook policy "Say Hello"
- Buddy Benches - currently @ 2/3 goal and open to donations

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jaguar Jog – Cindy Maquet

- Thanks to all who participated and all volunteers
- Financials still in progress
- Cindy offered to chair next year – requests co-chair
- Proposed to have PTA purchase a Jaguar costume (est $450) vs. renting one ea yr

Variety Show – Melissa Rausch

- "I Can't Stop the Feeling" flash mob (SHHH don't tell students!)
- Tony Schroeder in charge of sound
- Show Nov 19th @ Tivoli
- Nov 17th final run-through after-school until 5pm, P/T Conf begin that day @ 5pm
- Needs new chair for next year – ask Melissa re: duties incl in the chair position

CO-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- PTA Additional Media Insurance Liability Coverage Vote
  - Melissa Rausch motioned to approve, Susan Lorenc 2nd, unanimously passed
- Vote on Standing Rules
  - Rita Brezina motioned to approve, Lori Achilles 2nd, unanimously passed
- Girl's Day Out Fundraiser is Sept 29th

PLAYGROUND

- Goes to bid in February
- Raised amount currently @ $90k
- Push for sponsorships (corporate, community donations)
- Buildings & Grounds hopeful to switch out pea gravel in for mulch in secondary playground

LANGUAGE LABS

- Dissolution of Language Stars (too expensive)
- 20 week session - $280
- Need Enrollment
- Registration online
- 1-6 grades only, if enrollment is high enough may add Kindergarten

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- New water coolers are awesome!
- This Week @ Whittier sent every week vs. monthly or quarterly
- Formal thank you to Cindy Maquet for chairing Jaguar Jog
- Pleased to work with MAVInS, is inspired/excited to learn
- Explore!
  - Important to reassess reading after the "summer slide"
  - Explore! Week was ½ Explore, ½ class
  - 40 Volunteers
  - Explore! Committee will meet again for the spring reassessment
  - Kindergarten will be F&P tested in October
- New Spirit Wear company, "Be Inspired" t-shirts will double as Field Day t-shirt
- Staff working on current wish lists
- Yearbook ordering open, order by Sept 30th for 15% discount
- Jan 1st will roll out new district website
- Walking Club begins Wed, Sept 21st

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Minutes scribed by: Rachel Carrero

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