Whittier Elementary School PTA Meeting

21-May-2019, 7 PM at Cadence Kitchen

Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM

Attendees

- Whittier Staff:
  - Principal Michael Krugman
  - Kindergarten Teachers: Samantha Boehm & Lisa Czeszewski
  - Second Grade: Coleen Sullivan & Matt Swade
- Board and Parents: 16 Attendees

General Items

- Susan asked all to download the KOHA app. KOHA is donating $1 for each new member. All are encouraged to upload receipts, and Whittier will earn money.
- Matt Butts made the motion to approve the April 16 minutes, seconded by John Miller
- Susan Lorenc thanked Rachel for her three years of Service as Secretary

Treasurers Report

- Lori Achilles shared the budget.
- Changes include change of name from Jaguar Jog to Fall Fundraiser, Capital Budgets to school Improvements, WRECK, creation of an Executive Board purchases, change in name from Teacher to Staff Appreciation.
- Several amounts were changed and will be reflected in the updated Treasurers Report to be uploaded by Lori.
- Matt Butts made the motion to approve the budget, second by Briar Croft.
- Request made to move $5,000 to the Capital Improvements Fund. Motion made by Melissa Rausch, second by Matt Butts.

Guest Teacher Speakers

- Ms. Sullivan shared the Staff is appreciative of the Staff Appreciation week and activities.
- Ms. Sullivan explained the importance of the EXPLORE program, as it allows the teachers to spend more 1x1 time with their students. She requested that we reach out to the parents to find out if there are any special talents or skills that could be harnessed going forward.
- Mr. Swade and Ms. Sullivan shared they are preparing for the Second Grade Field Trip next week with the Downers Grove Historical Society
- Mr. Swade added that their kids are really benefiting from the new Benchmark curriculum
- Miss. C added Kindergarteners are growing through the Benchmark Program as well, as covered in the Open House. The kids also recently enjoyed their trip to the Brookfield Zoo.
- Miss. Boehm shared the kindergarteners started ‘Coding with Kindergarteners’, in collaboration with the Downers Grove Public Library.

Co-Presidents Report

- Recognized and Appreciated John Miller in serving on the Board for District 58.
- John shared that the Whittier PTA serves as a role model for other PTA's
- Open Committees:
    - Staff Appreciation
    - Outside Programs Coordinator with Chess, Rembrandts and Language Labs – will serve as contact
    - Audit Committee: Several volunteered and will contact Lori
- Susan and Mr. Krugman reminded of the need to register kids for the 2019-2020 school year
- Jenn indicated it was a successful year with the bathrooms, sound system and other school support

New Business

- New Officers Were Voted in; Motioned by Susan Lorenc, Second by Matt Butts
    - Co-Presidents: Amy Cable and Sarah Bogaczyk
    - Co-Vice Presidents: Gina Schuster and Briar Croft
    - Secretary: Cheryl Popielarz
    - Renewal of Treasurer: Lori Achilles
- New President's Announcement
    - PTA Enrollment opens on June 1
    - Dates for 2019-2020 PTA meetings have been selected, locations TBD, anticipated variety
        - September 10, 2019
        - October 22, 2019
        - December 10, 2019
        - January 14, 2020
        - April 14, 2020
        - May 19, 2020
    - Melissa Rausch raised concerns on the Tire on the Intermediate Playground. Discussed that Maintenance is the responsibility of District 58. Mr. Krugman will contact Geoff Neustadt

Principals Report

- Mr. Krugman thanks the PTA for the support of Teacher Appreciation Week
- Explore was successful, great to include Kindergarteners, neat to see growth of kids. Success attributes to the Benchmark Reading Series. Most kids advanced 2-3 levels in F&P.
- Mr. Krugman will be reaching out to parents to help lead in new capacities, like Argonne/Fermilab.
- Whittier Vegetable Garden is underway: Thank you to parents who volunteered, plantings are tomorrow, rain barrel was donated and hoses will be installed this week. Items will be grown over the summer and donated.
- Feed My Starving Children 90th Birthday Activity had a great turnout. We put together 373 boxes, more than 80,000 meals, and will feed over 221 kids over a year!
- End of Year School Countdown is underway
- Finally Families is Whittier June 3, with recognition and picture for the 6th Graders
- The School Improvements next project will be the Gym to be replaced with Permanent Pads in the Jaguar Jungle, as well as a White Board. Mr. Krugman met with

- Additional Projects they would like
    - Outdoor Classroom
    - Heart Rate Monitors
    - Exterior Whittier Sign
- Other Events:
    - Last Fun Lunch is this Friday
    - Field Day is June 7th', primary to be done by 11:30, 12:40 starts the intermediate.
    - School Awards is June 10
    - Clap out is scheduled for the last day
    - Office Closes on Whittier 13

Committee Reports

- Fall Fundraiser: Previously known as Jaguar Jog scheduled for Friday, October 4. Will serve as a color Run at Whittier, not timed, on-line registration, with Sponsors. Matt Croft prepared a teaser and Mr. Krugman will share this week
- Staff Appreciation: Lori shared that she and Stacey appreciate all of the efforts. They are looking for a new Char for next year.
- Family Fun/Last Day of School: Starts at 11:40 after the Clap-out. Susan Ourada will be coordinating on site. Includes glitter tattoos, dunk tank, cotton candy. Information will come out after Memorial Day. Will be residual funds for next year
    - Addie Pampaolne suggested we set an end time
    - Still waiting for the check from Baked Apple. Menchies brought in over $100.
    - Starting to plan fundraisers for the Fall

Amy Cable made a motion to close the meeting, Meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM