PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION OF WHITTIER SCHOOL
Downers Grove, Illinois
PTA MEETING MINUTES
October 21, 201

The General Meeting of the Whittier School PTA was held on Tuesday, October 21, 2014, in the Whittier School gym. There were 29 people in attendance.

Guest Speakers: Mrs. Jurinek and Mrs. Modine – What's Happening in 3rd Grade

Using Guided Groups to meet students' individual needs

- By incorporating MAP Assessment results as well as classroom observations, 3rd Graders are being grouped into smaller pods based on ability
- To help tailor lesson plans to small group needs, Mrs. Jurinek are Mrs. Modine are integrating technology such as the Web app and Kids Blog
- Kids Blog has many functions:
    - Teaches students online safety, for example, children should not disclose where they live or other personal information in an online environment
    - It gives the student writers an authentic audience comprised of their peers
    - Allows teachers to listen to each student explain a concept. The teacher can identify students that understand the concept or might need some additional help
    - The kids really enjoy it!

Get Ready for The Reading Games

- Online registration opens November 3, there is room for 70 teams
- Teams should be comprised of 5-8 students
- More information to come

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes were approved from September 2014 meeting. Amy Toth moved to approve the minutes and Pam McGinn seconded the motion

TREASURER'S REPORT: Preliminary results from the Jaguar Jog indicate that the event raised approximately $20,000. PTA had budgeted $10,000 for the event, so it far exceeded expectations

CO-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

1. The PTA expressed their appreciation to Debbie Doberez and the Family Math Night Team for a well-attended, fun event.

2. In addition, the PTA thanked the Jaguar Jog team for all their hard work and for coordinating such a successful event

3. The PTA is looking for new co-chairs for the Fall Fundraiser. The new chairs can decide on a different event or continue with the jog. If you are interested, please reach out to Rita Brezina or Val Hardy

4. The Directory was distributed this week. The cover is red to help distinguish from other years

5. A motion was approved to purchase materials for the GaGa Pit not to exceed $1200. Pam McGinn brought forth the motion and the motion was approved.

6. The Teacher Wishlist was approved. Each item was reviewed and all items on the wish list were approved. Total cost for the Wishlist is not to exceed $5838

7. District 58 will hold a Technology Support Session and a Learning, Assessment & Reporting Overview on Wednesday Oct. 29 at Highland School, 3935 Highland Ave., and on Wednesday, Nov. 12 at the Longfellow Center, 1435 Prairie Ave. The Technology Support Session begins at 6:30 p.m., and the Learning, Assessment & Reporting Overview starts at 7:30 p.m

   http://www.dg58.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=4&ModuleInstanceID=102&ViewID=047E6BE3-6D87-4130-8424-D8E4E9ED6C2A&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=11337&PageID=1

8. Co-Presidents Rita Brezina and Val Hardy attended a District 58 meeting. Kari Cremascoli reported at this time, there is no plan one way or the other for full-day kindergarten next year

Committee Reports:

- **Market Day** – Please consider purchasing a pie by November 3rd to support fundraising efforts for the LRC. If needed, families can use the freezer space at school.
- **Scholastic Book Night** – Nov. 19 is the Fall Book Fair. Volunteers are needed, especially for the 3-4 time slot
- **Destination Imagination –** Please join DI in the Jaguar Gym after school on Thursday, Oct.30 for team building games and to learn more about what DI entails
- **Jaguar Jog -** Some families still have outstanding invoices, please pay as soon as possible. If you have registered for an event, but not received an evite, please contact Sarah Cleveland
- **Winter Wonderland** – Looking for additional families to sponsor as well as individuals to volunteer time. If your teen needs additional volunteer hours, please consider having them participate. Event takes place Sunday, Dec. 7. It's an entire family event including crafts, light food and beverages, holiday themed games, secret shopping bazars, karaoke. If you have not registered, openings are still available
- **Refelction Program** – Due date is November 3. District asked that schools submit all work in a single portfolio. PTA approved a $12 expenditure to purchase a plastic portfolio
- **Whittier Wear** – Great success, made $400 in profit. Prior to holiday break, there will be another opportunity to purchase Whittier Wear, it makes great stocking stuffers

Principal's Report:

- Mr. Krugman thanked the PTA for approving the Teacher Wishlist. He also thanked the PTA for support of the GaGa Pit
- He reported it was a great turn out at Culvers for Family Fun Night, both the teachers who volunteered and the families who attended had a nice time
- Mr. Krugman asked the PTA for $900 to fund transportation to the all school field trip to DGN in March. The school needs approximately 7 busses. It's a Community Outreach Program by the DGN orchestra and band focused on Heroes and Villians, Avengers, Star Wars, Amerian Service Men and Women as well as First Responders. Last year, the transportation was funded by District 58. It was the first and only year the District funded it. The PTA asked that Mr. Krugman make a special request instead of adding it as a line item to the PTA budget. This event was well received by students in prior year, and the school hopes to attend this year as well
- SB16 passed in the Senate, but the House will not pass it in its current form. This is good news for our district. For more information regarding the Senate Bill and its impact to District 58, please see below
  http://dg58.org/site/Default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=4&PageID=1&ViewID=047e6be3-6d87-4130-8424-d8e4e9ed6c2a&FlexDataID=10845

- Red Ribbon Week, which celebrates Drug and Bully Awareness, takes place from Oct 27 – Oct 31. Various activities will take place during the week, including:
    - Monday, Oct 27 – Wear Red
    - Tuesday, Oct 28 – Blue and Gold Spirit Day
    - Wednesday, Oct 29 – Rock Star Day
    - Thursday, Oct 30 – Sports Day
    - Friday, Oct 31 – Halloween, classroom parties and parade
- Nov 5 - Military Veterans Mr. Miller and Mr. Bath will share their experiences
- Nov 7 – School Variety Show
- Nov 10 – Teacher Institute, no school
- Nov 11 – Veterans Day, no school
- Nov 13 – 1st Grade Dress the Turkey
- Nov 15 – Variety Show at the Tivoli

OLD BUSINESS:
After unsuccessfully seeking a CPA willing to do the PTA's taxes pro-bono, the executive board decided to hire an accounting firm to complete the task. Rita Brezina raised a motion to spend $325 for a tax accountant. Debbie Doberez approved and Jen Mielke seconded the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:
None.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.