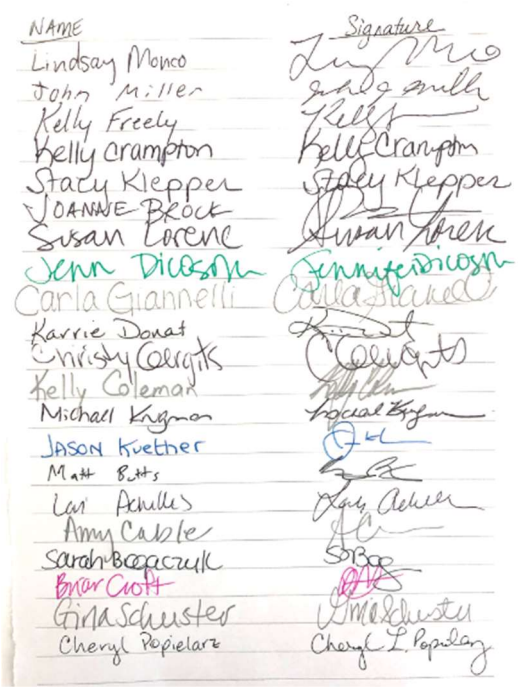
Whittier Elementary School PTA Meeting

10-Sep-2019, 7 PM at Whittier LRC

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM

Attendees

- Whittier Staff:
  - Principal: Michael Krugman
  - Learning Lab: Mrs. Gergits
  - LRC: Ms. Coleman
- PTA Board: Lori Achilles, Amy Cable, Sarah Bogaczyk, Briar Croft, Cheryl Popielarz, and Gina Schuster
- Board and Parents: 13 Attendees



Secretary Report

- Meeting Minutes: Susan Lorenc made the motion to approve 21-May-2019 Meeting minutes
- Cheryl shared the Wordpress Platform, which hosts our Whittier Weekly and E-mail was down for several weeks this summer. Ann Russell worked with the supplier to resolve the issues the first week of school.

Treasurers Report

- Lori Achilles shared the financials
- Lori asked for volunteers to step up as Treasurer at the end of the year

Guest Teacher Speakers

- Ms. Coleman
    - Reduced revenue from the Book Fair last year when combined with the October Parent Teach Conferences, targeting a separate Book Fair on November 11, will try to coordinate it with Literacy Night in November
    - Plan to have One Book One School in the Spring
    - Ms. Coleman will be on Seesaw, providing updates
    - Now seeing K-2 twice a week
    - Sixth grade Design Project with 3-D printer, leveraging a mentor from DGN, Mr. C
- Ms. Gergits
    - Learning Lab is up and running
    - Just completed Explore! Week, letters went home to families with their child's reading level
    - Recognized all of the parents who volunteered to help Explore
    - Parents are encouraged to reach out to her with any questions on the results
    - Community Garden is doing great! She made two trips to week to people's resource center. Weeds and Seeds will take over, and it will be relaunched in the Spring of 2020

Co-Presidents Report

- Board of Education meeting was held 09-Sept
    - Several Whittier students present. Amy, Sarah, and Mr. Krugman shared some of the activities underway at Whittier.
    - Families are encouraged to review the 1-to-1 technology plan and study.
    - Sarah recommends families to review the Master Plan, which covers upcoming potential infrastructure investments
    - Next meeting is October 16
- Several Open Committees
    - Staff Appreciation in the Spring – Previously held by Lori Achilles and Stacey Klepper
    - Young Rembrandts
    - Treasurer – At end of year
    - IT/Website – currently performed by Ann Russell- At end of year
- Donation Opportunities
    - Smile.Amazon (through the Browser), we received $36 in August 2019
    - KOHA, supported by District 58 for local businesses, (*Action: Research campaign options)
- Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 22 at 7PM at Cadence Kitchen

Principals Report

- Great start to the school year with the second “clap-In”, new Superintendent was present
- Theme is “Find Your Superpower”, and the kids walked in on the first day of school to the Superman Theme song
- Will start including a quote from Superheroes, one per week
- Curriculum Night was held last week, we are in our second full year of ELA with Benchmark
- Piloting a new Math Program District wide, 2nd and 5th grades at Whittier. Focuses on Problem-solving and real math
- Piloting a Science program as well this year
- Explore went very well, teachers really valued the 1x1 relationship, will be again in May. Those interested in running a specific program can contact Mr. Krugman, Stacy Klepper, Rita Brezina or Lori Achilles
- Gym Pads are in, installation scheduled for October 12-15.
- Future investment needs are: bike racks, benches, outdoor classroom
- Teacher Wish List reviewed will be posted on the Website. Motion made by Susan Lorenc to review on October 22.
- Reviewed Calendar of Events, posted on the Whittier Calendar

Committee Reports

- Whittier Wear and Share: Items are available in the hallway outside the office
- Color Run: (Jenn Dicosola & Susan Lorenc) Friday October 4, kick off on corner of Hill & Grand. Goal of 200, already at 163. More runners, pledges and color blasters are welcome! Class with the most registrants will get a Fair Game Party (first place) or a Skuttlebutts pizza party (second place). Runs will be broken out into Grad Groups.
- Experiences: (Lindsay Monco) Eight Experiences submitted, deadline is this Friday to submit
- Fun Fair: (Lindsay Monco) Planned for Sat 2/8, vendor comes in and sets up carnival games
- Family Fun: (Cheryl Popielarz): Made $360 at City BBQ, Five Guys is next week Sept 19!
- Whittier Wear: (Sarah Bogaczyk) Link coming soon
- Variety Show: (Sarah Bogaczyk)Scheduled for February 1 at the Tivoli
- Reflections: (Sarah Bogaczyk) PTA sponsored even where kids create original items, theme is “Look Within”
- Hospitality: (Sarah Bogaczyk) More information to come

New Business

- Sarah Bogaczyk and Joanne Brock to align on renewing Shane’s School Supplies
- BoxTops program is going digital with scanning options, information is coming out soon.