

Horizon PTO Meeting 11/20/2014 Notes

Introductions were made. See list of attendees.

A representative, Mr. Suits, from Chess Scholars presented a new after school engineering program called "Let's Build It Engineering". The program is offered in trimesters with a different topic each time. The sessions are 1 hour, cost \$12.50 per session per student and are for 2nd grade and up. A minimum of 6 participants is required. Transportation Technology is the next topic. Attendees voted that the school should offer the program.

The Treasurers report was given by Pam Murdoch. The PTO is operating on budget.

The Principals report was given by Dr. Gehrig.

They are trying to sanitize more to help keep the flu contained. Horizon is getting a new boiler over the summer. The first meeting is set for early December. The school is in need of lunch supervisors.

Staff input was received from Ms. Fagan and Ms. Weathers.

Ms. Fagan gave a heartfelt thank you to the PTO for its support of the library. The district used to give \$6000 yearly to each library; this year it was \$250. Not all schools support their libraries. Without the volunteers in the Horizon library, only the bare minimum would get done. The library does take donations and prefers hard covers. Book fair profits are used to buy birthday books for each student. Ms. Fagan wanted to know if it is acceptable to buy the 'bruised' books for this purpose as it is more economical. Attendees voted yes.

Ms. Weathers gave an exciting presentation on the state of kindergarten. Common core reaches to kindergarten including literacy connections in math. Kindergarten is not snack time/play time any longer. Kindergarten is the new 1st grade! Attendees got to do a kindergarten oral language exercise. Phonemic awareness is part of common core.

Tammy gave an update of CAC; last month was the role of the school board. There are 4 positions up for re-election. Barb Goetzke gave an update on the E&F committee. Demographer results are to be back in early December. The district is expecting three scenarios back that include automatic by the program, dual language in its own schools, and all day kindergarten in every elementary. Carol Stream parent Jeannine Bukowski suggested that instead of closing down an area elementary school it could be made into a middle school. This would also reduce travel times.

Family movie night was set for January 16th. PTO has free popcorn and a movie and sells drinks. Movie is shown at 6:30 in gym and 7 in multipurpose room.

Cash raffle update 549 tickets from 107 families were sold last year. This year, so far 390 tickets from 66 families were sold. Looks like we will be able to buy two cameras so far.

The first raffle winners were picked and are

\$75 Terea Eid
\$50 Marcella Hernandez
\$50 Brian Caputo
\$25 Mitch Kowalkowski
\$25 Simi Patel
\$25 Macy Medendorp

Bingo night was set for April 10, 2015.

Tammy gave an update on collections. This year we have submitted a record amount of box tops at over \$1600 to date. Tammy created Collection envelopes to be sent home. They look awesome! Thank you! We have 9351 pts in labels for education. The PTO newsletter next month will feature collection update.

Three teachers submitted allocation requests as follows:

Ms. Kwok requested bass diatonic and chromatic sets at about \$140. This was approved.

Ms. Rodriguez requested a portable cd/cassette, MP3 player, a 6 person listening center and cd/cassettes. This was tabled pending further information since the cassette technology is outdated.

Ms. Borho requested food and craft supplies, mini chalkboards, and handwriting without tears for about \$70. This item was approved except the funds should come from the teacher gift fund first if those funds have not yet been used.

Chris Leo gave an update on school supply kits. Online ordering and pickup at the end of this school year were approved. Only 9 families don't receive email currently. Flyers will be sent to those families.

Two fundraising ideas were presented: penny wars by Kelly Crawford and jersey mikes subs \$2 subs by Jeannine Bukowski.

Dr. Gehrig passed out the FACE report for comment.

Meeting adjourned at 845.