

## **PTO Minutes - November 5, 2019**

**Attendees:** Holly Sutcliffe, Morgan Yarker, Bird Gengler, Ed Rogers, Jami Demuth, Heidi Hora, Kim Albers, Kristie Mattson, Jayson Kramer, Amit Agarwal, Neha Agarwal, Helen Royer, Laura Montgomery, Tabitha Lightfoot

**Meeting called to order by Heidi Hora**

**October PTO meeting minutes were approved**

### **Principal's Report**

Ed Rogers discussed the training the teachers had during the last professional development. There was a speaker from Mercy who did a presentation about perfectionism in elementary children and the effect on their mental health. They also did Letters training, which focuses on phonetic awareness and phonics.

The staff is continuing training on Math Talks - teaching students to think and talk with each other about what they see.

He also presented the district's Strategic Plan, which focuses on student success, future focused action plan and destination Linn-Mar.

There has been discussion about the school start times next year but no decisions have been made. One of the ideas is having the elementary school run from 7:50-2:35, intermediate/middle school from 8:25-3:10 and high school from 8:55-3:55. This would minimize the number of new buses that would need to be purchased.

There has also been discussions about opening an 8th elementary building in 2023 and beginning discussions surrounding a 2nd high school, a performance arts building and using the LRC as part of the high school.

Ed also discussed social media and bullying. If bullying occurs within the building, they take steps to handle it. If it takes place outside of the school and becomes a focal point, they will also address it.

### **Write One for Westfield Update**

We are within \$500 of meeting our Write One for Westfield goal. We will continue to send our reminders.

### **Treasurer's Report**

An updated income and expense sheet was distributed.

Three additional staff members were hired after the budget was voted on in the spring. The decision was made to give the new staff members \$150 for classroom funding. This is the same funding that all other teachers receive for their classrooms.

### **Old Business**

The Homecoming Parade was fun! There were about 30 kids and 10-15 parents that walked in the parade.

America Reads was successful. Almost 90 readers filled 150 spots.

We will be receiving a check from Culver's for \$441.87 from Westfield night.

During the fall box top drive, \$141.70 of Box Tops were collected. There was discussion on how important it is to download the app and scan receipts.

### **New Business**

Science Night will be Nov. 12. There are around 15 vendors and a Star Lab. Free tickets will be available the night of for the star lab. They are hoping that at least 200 students will get to experience the Star Lab.

PTO will be providing the teachers with a meal from Hy-Vee during conferences on Nov. 21. All of the volunteer spots were filled quickly.

There will be a Hy-Vee receipt collection Dec. 2-6. The class that collects the most receipts will receive a treat from Hy-Vee! Please add up your receipts before sending them in - it really helps our volunteers!

The winter staff appreciation luncheon will be held Dec. 5.

There was discussion regarding who would send emails from PTO. The decision was made to have Jill send the PTO email on Thursdays.

### **Meeting Adjourned**