

## Winnebago PTO Meeting Minutes –November 8, 2016

Lindsay Ludwig - Co-President, Jamie Dimke – Co-President, Treasurer – Nichole Whitehead,  
Secretary – Michelle Dykstra, Teacher Chairperson – Rhonda Waggoner

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Meeting Called to order at: 6:04

**Secretary's report:** October minutes were read. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Tracey Ricks and seconded by Frank Mandera

**Treasurer's report:** As of Nov 8th, the cash balance is \$34,475.86

### Principal's Reports:

#### Mr. Mandera-

Simon Elementary

PTO Report - November 2016

Targeted Intervention

We had another fall preschool screening on November 2. This is the last scheduled screening until February 1

Students have been receiving targeted intervention for reading and math instruction. Their progress will be reviewed with teachers in early December.

Weather and Recess

I am sure the weather will soon turn colder, it is VERY important that students come to school prepared to go outside for recess. We will have outside recess if the temperature and wind chill is 15 degrees and above. If your child cannot go outside due to medical reasons, please provide a doctor's excuse for the child to remain inside.

Also, parents please remember the speed limit on school grounds in the parking lot areas is 5 MPH, especially when weather is icy or snowy. Keep our children safe and drive slow.

It is VERY important that parent follow the morning drop off procedures, especially once conditions get icy and/or snow covered.

Simon Parent Drop Off in the Morning (7:35-8:05) - Car Riders

Parents please keep to these 3 items for your child's safety while dropping off in the morning.

1. Keep a single line of traffic when dropping your child off in the morning.
2. Have your child exit the car on the passenger side of the vehicle.
3. If you need to assist your child to exit out of the vehicle, please park and walk your child up to the building entrance.

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REMINDER: School starts at 8:05, the west door locks. If you're running late from 8:05 on, please come to the office and sign your child in.

### Pennies for Positive Programming

Please purge your pockets and purses of pennies to participate in pennies for positive programming.

Students will start to bring in pennies, please place them in the bottle that was placed in your child's classroom. All of the pennies will go to support Reading Night (Nov) and STEAM Night (Winter).

### Proficiency Scales

Starting this school year, we will be implementing a new proficiency scale that better aligns with assignments, assessments, and Common Core Standards.

What does a proficiency scale represent?

A Proficiency Scale takes a learning standard and breaks it down into four levels of support needed to demonstrate proficiency. This information is organized in a visual chart that can be used as a learning tool for teachers, parents, and students. In the future, teachers will use this proficiency scale with their students as part of their conversations about a student's learning progress. This is meant to help teachers and students identify skills to practice where extra support is needed and skill areas in which the student is ready for extended learning. This proficiency scale is numerical 1-4.

### Proficiency Scale for Simon Elementary 2016-17

4 Student independently applies and evaluates skills in a new way. I can do this and explain it to someone else. 3 Student consistently meets grade level expectations and content with limited guidance. I can understand and do this by myself. \*THIS IS THE GOAL FOR STUDENTS

2 Student is building and developing an understanding of grade level expectations, but is in need of additional support to make progress. I need more practice and additional help.

1 Student is emerging with foundational grade level expectations and has little background knowledge even with additional support and alternative programming. I do not understand this yet.

### Illinois School Report Card Information

Illinois' state school report card officially launched 10/31/2016. The new report card paints a picture of the learning environment at every school in Illinois, providing information about academic performance, the school environment, available courses and programs. The new report card, accessible at [illinoisreportcard.com](http://illinoisreportcard.com), includes both an Online Report Card that offers an in-depth view of school- and district-level information as well as an At-a-Glance Report Card that provides a simple, one-page, printable view of a school or district's most important information.

### Library News

Tuesday, Nov 8th, Students are invited to vote in the Simon Library Election between 8:30 - 10:30 Students will have their own voter registration cards.

- Polling Place will be in the library

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- Students are voting on library seating: A large reading carpet or reading cushions
  - The process should only last about 10 minutes.
  - Students will receive a "I voted" sticker and a bookmark

Students will learn about Veteran's Day throughout the week of November 7. We will be reading What is Veterans Day by Elaine Landau, watching a short video: Holiday's for Children Veterans Day. If there is time, students will also learn about our nations flag and how to properly fold it.

#### Simon Reading Night

Scheduled for Tuesday, November 15 from 5:30-7:30. We will have guest readers, free books, and facepainting available.

**Mr. Monohan-**

#### Upcoming Dates and Information

- PTO Fall Fundraiser Pig Races are set for this Thursday, November 10, from 9:45-10:15a in our gym.
- Ms. Volkert's next Music Movie Night for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students is scheduled for Thursday, November 10, from 6-7:40pm, in the McNair Music Room. Students will be watching "High School Musical."
- NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving Holiday, Wednesday, November 23-Friday, November 25
- Learning S'more at McNair Family Night and Book Fair, Thursday, December 1, 6-8pm. *Additional information will be sent home in the coming weeks.*
- Second quarter midterm reports will be sent home on Friday, December 2
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade Chorus members sing the National Anthem at the Rockford Ice Hogs game, Saturday, December 3, BMO Harris Bank Center, 7:00pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Winter Choral Concert, Thursday, December 8, 6:30pm, WHS Cafetorium
- Thursday, February 9, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Band Concert, 6:30pm, WHS Cafetorium
- Monday, February 13, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Choral Concert, 6:30pm, WHS Cafetorium

Recently parents of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students received last spring's PARCC exam results. I encourage you to check out the following site, <http://understandthescore.org/illinois/> is designed to help you understand your child's report. It outlines how to read and understand the new score reports, provides guidance on how to use the score reports to support children and highlights learning resources that you can use to help your child improve academically.

In addition to our annual fire drills, tornado drills, and bus evacuation drills that take place each year, we'll also be practicing safety drills using the book, "I'm Not Scared...I'm Prepared!" by Julia Cook. This book addresses the concepts taught by the ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate) Training Institute, and make them applicable to children of all ages in a non-fearful way. By using this book, children can develop a better understanding of what needs to be done if they ever encounter a "dangerous someone."

After taking the last couple of weeks to learn about the election process, students in grades 3-5 will be casting their votes today for our nation's next President. Fourth grade students have been sharing Election Day facts for the last several mornings during announcements and all students will have a voter registration card, as well. We are hoping to know which candidate receives the most votes at McNair before we leave at the end of the day and to see if the voices of McNair students match the voices of those visiting the polls in their respective communities today.

On Friday, November 11th, we will be celebrating Veteran's Day here at school. Classroom activities are taking place during the week and several veterans will be visiting McNair students this week to share their experiences and to field questions from students. We are also asking students to wear red, white, and blue or camouflage on this day, as well.

### **McNair End of the Year Awards**

With the first quarter grading period coming to an end recently, we'd like to share that McNair will no longer be holding end of the year awards ceremonies in late May as we have in the past. Rather, we are going to continue recognizing students throughout the year with the positive behavior benchmark recognition mentioned above, and weekly through our Student of the Week recognition program. Students also receive birthday books (thanks to PTO) and have their picture displayed on our birthday board and they already receive Accelerated Reader prizes throughout the year. New this year, though, and beginning first quarter, students in grades 4 and 5 will be recognized quarterly with our new honor roll recognition, while students in grades 3-5 will be recognized with quarterly attendance awards. We will also continue to recognize the Presidential Academic Awards to deserving fifth grade students and this year those awards will be handed out at our DARE graduation ceremony, scheduled for Wednesday, May 17.

### **Targeted Intervention Update**

RtI students will be taking STAR Reading and Math tests this week. These progress monitoring results will be discussed with classroom teachers, Mrs. Reesor, and myself on Wednesday, November 16, at which time changes to intervention strategies, as well as frequency of interventions, will be discussed.

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**Monetary Requests:** None at this time.

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## **Fundraiser Reports:**

**Box Tops:** We raised \$1,011.60 with the Oct collection! The funds will be given to PTO in December. Mrs. Draves class brought in the most box tops with 1,673 collected!

**Spirit Wear:** Just under \$10,000 in sales which gives PTO a \$2000 profit! Most items have been delivered with a few backorder items to go out yet.

**Fall Fundraiser:** Pick up was Oct 26<sup>th</sup>. The pig races will take place on Nov 11<sup>th</sup> with the Extreme Assembly on Dec 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Pies:** 606 pies were ordered for \$10,513 in sales. PTO's profit was \$4,520.59! Pies will be delivered the week before Thanksgiving, date TBD.

## **Committee Reports**

**YMCA Night:** Date TBD

**Family Fun Night:** There is no committee chair for Family Fun Night. The idea of having a Sports Night at the Edge facility was brought up and will be explored more in the future.

**Christmas Bazaar:** Saturday Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> 8am-noon. Contact Inka Danko if you are interested in helping. There will be a craft prep day at Inga's house on Nov 13<sup>th</sup> 1-4pm. She is looking for small white jewelry boxes. We also need a Santa as our usual Santa is not able to attend this year.

**Old Business:** We still have some open chair positions for the Yearbook co-chair, Fall Fundraiser co-chair, and Art Show/Craft Basket chair and co-chair. (The idea of each class putting together their own basket was suggested since this is a contest between classes. In the past a few parents have gotten together to wrap the all of the class baskets.) Contact the PTO if you are interested in more information on any of these positions!

**New Business:** No new business.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:45

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Dykstra

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