

Winnebago PTO Meeting Minutes – March 14, 2017

Lindsay Ludwig - Co-President, Jamie Dimke – Co-President, Treasurer – Nichole Whitehead,

Secretary – Michelle Dykstra, Teacher Chairperson – Rhonda Waggoner

Meeting Called to order at: 6:01

Secretary's report: February minutes were read. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. Mander and seconded by Tracey Ricks.

Treasurer's report: As of March 14, the cash balance is \$48,686.52

Principal's Reports:

Mr. Mander-

At-Risk Student Update: We currently do not have any retentions considerations for next school year.

We are discussing student progress on Thursday, March 16 and developing intervention plans for reading and math for the remainder of this school year.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Teacher held conferences with parents that were considered at-risk academically, behaviors, and/or attention concerns. On an average classroom teachers had 6 parent conferences from 4-7:30pm for a total of 70 students.

Kindergarten Pre-Enrollment

Parents can enroll online using the link on the district web page. As of Monday, March 13, we have a total of 31 students pre-enrolled online. We have another 26 children from our prek and early childhood programs along with walk-in speech that will be attending regular kindergarten for a total of 57 students projected in kindergarten. Right now, the projection is 70 students by the end of this school year. We probably will be looking at 85 students in kindergarten by the end of July 2017. This would be approx. 21 students in 4 classes.

2017-2018 Preschool Screening

We held our first 2017-18 school year screening on March 1-2. We had a total of 22 appointments for screening. We will be informing parents of the screening results by mid-March. Another screening for the 2017-18 school year will be in June.

First Grade Musical – March 13

First grade held their musical on Monday, March 13 at Simon Elementary. Mrs. Volkert did a wonderful job with instructing the students for their presentation.

CHANGES OF PHONE NUMBERS, ADDRESSES, AND UNPAID REGISTRATION FEES

Parents please make sure you have updated the school office if you have changed your home or cell phone numbers since the beginning of the school year. Also, if you have changed addresses during the school year, please make sure you have given your proof of residency to the district office or your child will not receive a registration packet for the 2017-18 school year. Finally, if you have any outstanding registration fees from this school year, your child will not receive a 2017-18 registration packet.

OUTSTANDING LUNCH BALANCES

It is VERY important to keep your child's lunch accounts up to date. We will not allow students to charge lunches. If you have questions about your account balance, please call Beth Swagart at Simon 335-2318 between 7:15 –3PM.

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

As we wind down the winter season, we have a large collection of coats, sweaters, hats, boots, etc. Students who have lost articles may check the lost and found on the lower level before and after school, or at other times with teacher permission. Any articles not claimed at the end of the school year will be given to a charitable organization

Accelerated Reader Challenge Day Simon vs. McNair – March 24

We will hold our annual AR challenge day on Friday, March 24. This competition is to see if each school can read more books and earn more points than the previous year. The school that has the biggest growth will earn the AR trophy for the year.

Erin's Law

In early April, a representative from Carrie Lynn Children's Center will be at Simon to present a sexual abuse awareness program for all grade levels. This is in compliance with the Illinois state mandated Erin's Law. "Erin's Law" requires that all public schools in each state implement a prevention-oriented child sexual abuse program which teaches students in grades PreK – 12th grade, age-appropriate techniques to recognize child sexual abuse and tell a trusted adult.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - KIDS CLUB 2017-18 REGISTRATION NIGHT

Kids Club will be holding their first registration night for the 2017-18 school year on Thursday, March 23 from 4pm-5:30pm in the Simon Cafeteria. Account must be current to register for next year.

No Kids Club during Spring Break

Spring Picture Day is set for Thursday, March 23. Information sent home this week

Mr. Monohan-

Recent Activities

Teachers met with parents of 83 students during our February conference night. Thanks to the PTO for helping offset the cost of the staff meal.

A special thanks to Ginnie Cunningham for helping out with McNair's World's Finest Chocolate sales.

An early release school improvement afternoon was held on Wednesday, March 1. Teachers reviewed data, made plans for instructional adjustments, and reviewed PARCC readiness.

Students began roller skating in PE classes on Monday, March 6 and will wrap things up this Friday, March 17.

Carrie Lynn Center visited students in Grades 3-5 on Monday, March 6, as part of the state mandate called Erin's Law, which requires that all students receive age-appropriate education and information on sexual abuse.

The 5th grade DARE program began on Tuesday, March 7 and will wrap up on Tuesday, May 16, with graduation taking place on Wednesday, May 17.

The Rockford Ice Hogs visited the middle school on Wednesday, March 8, to talk with students about Bullying. Our 5th grade students joined the 6th-8th graders for the hour long assembly.

Blues in the Schools, a free performance by the Crossroads Blues Society, performed at McNair on Thursday afternoon, March 9. Students enjoyed learning about the history of Blues music and listening to musician Billy Flynn.

Monthly PBIS Pride Patrol prizes were awarded on Friday, March 10.

Upcoming Dates and Information

Our third quarter grading period ends on Friday, March 17. Report cards will be sent home on Friday, March 24.

The annual Accelerated Reader Challenge Day with Simon Elementary School will take place on Friday, March 24

There is NO SCHOOL from Monday, March 27 through Friday, March 31 for Spring Break

McNair's Spring Picture Day is scheduled for Thursday, April 6.

PARCC Kick-off, "Be a STAR and ROCK the Test" is scheduled for the afternoon of Friday, April 7.

PARCC testing in the areas of Math and English/Language Arts will take place from April 10-April 24

There is NO SCHOOL on Friday, April 14 and Monday, April 17 for the Easter Holiday

Other Items to Note

Students in grades 3-5 recently spent time during their regularly scheduled library sessions experimenting in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) concept with our librarian, Mrs. Eilers. Students worked in groups to construct freestanding bridges that would hold various weights.

4th grade students are participating in the St. Jude Math-a-Thon this month and are hoping to raise \$1000.00 for the St. Jude Children's Hospital.

One of our nurses, Stephanie Freimuth, has been visiting classrooms during the month of March, which is National Nutrition Month, and sharing with students some nutritional advice and information.

Just a reminder that new this year, McNair will no longer have grade level end of the year Awards Ceremonies. Rather, we've increased student recognition opportunities throughout the year, including quarterly honor roll and attendance honors. In addition, we recognize students weekly with Student of the Week honors, monthly with PBIS Pride Patrol awards, twice a month with Accelerated Reader recognition and we celebrate students for their birthdays. We'll also be recognizing our 5th grade students who have earned both the Presidential Achievement and Excellence Awards at the DARE graduation ceremony.

Targeted Intervention Update

During reading intervention time, students have been using informational text to examine key ideas and build vocabulary. Students are using graphic organizers to visually construct meaning and improve comprehension. They have also been working on reader's theater to practice fluency and expression. Some students are also taking part in the Wilson Reading System. These readers work through lessons to target word structure, fluency and comprehension.

Students currently receiving math interventions have been continuously working towards memorizing and mastering math facts. Using a variety of strategies to help retain the facts including songs, fact fluency practice, games, and spiral

reviews to accomplish this goal. They have also been using Moby Max software to identify learning gaps and provide practice where needed in the math standards.

Monetary Requests: None at this time.

Fundraiser Reports:

World's Finest Chocolate has raised \$11,761.96! We are also expecting a "sell out bonus" in addition to that amount.

The Art Show Basket Raffle is scheduled for May 3rd 5-7:30pm. This year each grade level will have a collective basket with online signup for donating items. There will also be some larger items included in the raffle to include, 2 bikes, Nintendo DS, Rockford themed basket and 2 night stay at the Wilderness.

Committee Reports:

Rollerskating night had an attendance of 200 students! PTO will receive \$.50 per skater for the event.

Old Business:

Open committee chair positions remain for: Yearbook Co-chair, Fall Fundraiser Co-chair, Art Show Committee Members

New Business: No new business

Meeting Adjourned at: 6:36

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Dykstra
