

Winnebago PTO Meeting Minutes – February 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: January minutes were read. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. Mandera and seconded by Tracy Ricks

Treasurer's report: As of February 14, the cash balance is \$45,752.32

Principal's Reports:

Mr. Mandera-

At-Risk Student Update: Students are at the 6 week mark for Tier 2-3 Reading/Math intervention. The progress of students will be shared with students at parent teacher conferences. Parent-Teacher discussions on Feb 16 will focus on the at-risk needs of our students PreK-2. Grade level retention concerns will also be discussed, if needed and/or appropriate.

Preplanning for the 2017-18 School Year

We will soon begin the process of pre-planning for the 2017-18 school year. We will be setting up transitional plans for our PreK/EC students into Kindergarten. We will also do a budget review that will align with Simon's Strategic Plan. With a new principal being at Simon for the 2017-18 school year, the Simon Transitional Team met on SIP Day – Feb 17 to discuss how to make this transition as seamless as possible.

Kindergarten Pre-Enrollment

2017-18 kindergarten enrollment started on February 1. Parents can call Simon Elementary and provide their child's information or complete an online pre-enrollment form. As of 2/13/17, we have 24 students pre-enrolled and 18 more counting children who are currently within our early childhood/PreK program who will be in our kindergarten class next year. This is very similar to pre-enrollment numbers in February 2016.

2017-18 Preschool Screenings

Winnebago CUSD #323 will conduct preschool screenings for the 2017-18 school year on Wednesday, March 1 and Thursday, March 2. These children may be eligible to attend the

Winnebago School District Preschool for the 2017-18 school year. Children have to be 3 years old at the time of the screening. We will tentatively plan another screening in July for 2017-18 school year, pending new principal approval.

Parent Teacher Conferences (Feb 16) – Teachers held conferences with parents of children that are having academic difficulty, retention candidates, or social/behavioral concerns. Conferences are focusing only on at-risk students.

School Improvement Day – February 17

Teacher meetings will be held to discuss the following topics:

- PLC Committee Work
- Proficiency Scales Development
- Skyward Time Off (change how you schedule/take days off)
- New Principal Transition Team Meeting
- Ren Flow Discussion

5th Annual STEAM Night – We held our 5th annual Simon STEAM night on Wednesday, February 8. This year we included the A – for ARTS of Music and Art. This is led by one of our teachers, Mrs. Waggoner who assisted in organizing and facilitating the planning. We had a number of staff members volunteering their time and expertise for this night also.

Severson Dells Assemblies

Thanks to a grant, we were able to have free presentation from Severson Dells for PreK-Grade 2 during the months February and March

Erin's Law

In January 2013, Governor Pat Quinn signed into law a new mandate that child sex - abuse education be taught in Illinois schools. With the assistance of The Carrie Lynn Center for Children, students as young as preschoolers will receive age - appropriate sex abuse education. This will include both classroom and grade - level presentations in April.

Parents who are interested may be a part of the Transitional team meeting Feb 17th to assist transitioning between Mr.Mandera to a new principal for the 2017-18 school year.

Mr. Monohan-**Recent Activities**

Northern Illinois' RAMP program continues their iBelong program through Wednesday, March 8, in grades 3-5. We've had many compliments from teachers and students about this program. While the focus is on accepting people of various disabilities, the underlying tone is how to treat all people with kindness and respect.

5th Grade Chorus visited Prairie View Assisted Living and sang to the residents on Thursday, February 9.

The 5th Grade Band Concert was held on Thursday, February 9.

Ag in the Classroom returned to 3rd grade classrooms on Monday, February 13. This free program from the Boone Winnebago Farm Bureau is always popular with our 3rd graders. This month, they learned about candy making and next month, they'll learn about and make maple syrup.

The 3rd Grade Choral Concert will be held on Monday, February 13.

Upcoming Dates and Information

5th Grade Spelling Bee is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, at 9:30am. The winner of this competition will represent McNair at the Regional Spelling Bee for students in grades 5-8 scheduled for Wednesday, March 22. Thanks to the PTO for sponsoring this registration fee.

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Thursday evening, February 16, from 4-7:30pm (due to the limited amount of time available for conferences, teachers will be in contact should they feel a conference is necessary at that time).

Third quarter midterm reports will be sent home with students on Thursday, February 16.

There is NO SCHOOL on Friday, February 17 for a scheduled School Improvement Day, as well as NO SCHOOL on Monday, February 20.

Carrie Lynn Center will be visiting 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders on March 6 to talk about Erin's Law, the state mandated law that asks that schools to teach prevention education to students on sexual assault/abuse in a child friendly manner.

Students in grades 3-5 will begin roller skating in PE classes on Monday, March 6 and continue through Friday, March 17.

5th graders will begin the DARE program, thanks to the Winnebago PTO and Winnebago Lion's Club, the week of March 6. DARE Graduation will be held and 5th grade Presidential Award Winners will be announced on Wednesday, May 17, at 6:30pm in the Winnebago High School Cafetorium.

The month of February is filling up quickly with many activities. In addition to the recent 5th grade band and 3rd grade music concerts, there are many activities planned in classrooms to recognize the month. Third grade students completed Valentine related activities, enjoyed a treat and another visit from the Boone/Winnebago Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom where they learned about candy making. Fourth graders celebrated Valentine's Day with residents at Prairie View Assisted Living, completed Valentine science experiments, and frosted and decorated Valentine cookies to enjoy. Fifth graders will be incorporated Valentine activities into their math curriculum, as well as enjoyed a special treat. Fifth

graders are also studying President's and answering daily trivia questions. One of our school nurses, Stephanie Freimuth, has also been visiting classrooms during their library time this month to talk about the heart and how we can take care of it.

Targeted Intervention Update

Teachers spent the afternoon of February 1 reviewing recent STAR testing data and identifying areas of strength and weakness when it comes to classroom instruction. In addition, they'll be meeting with our interventionist, Mrs. Reesor, individually on Wednesday, February 15, to discuss specific student's progress.

Monetary Requests:

A request was made by Mr. Flynn and Miss Miller in the amount of \$2,370.42 for field day supplies. The event will take place in May including 1st-4th grade students to be held at McNair school grounds. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Tracy Ricks and seconded by Ginnie Cunningham.

Fundraiser Reports: World's Finest Chocolate fundraiser has passed out 375 boxes of chocolate with all money due back by Feb 21st.

Committee Reports:

YMCA night was a success with 205 people in attendance. Thank you Tracy Ricks!

Roller skating night will be Feb 25th 4:30-6:30. PTO earns \$.25/skater, going up to \$.50/skater with 80+ skaters.

Old Business:

The amendment committee met at 5:30 before the PTO meeting. The following amendment was presented to the PTO for approval: *Items being purchased for a PTO even must be approved prior to the purchase by the PTO Treasurer. Once approved, the buyer must provide a copy of the receipt in order to receive reimbursement. Checks cannot be made out for reimbursement prior to receiving a formal receipt. The PTO Treasurer is unable to distribute blank checks or allow use of the PTO debit card for purchases.* A motion was made to approve the amendment by Kathy Bauling and seconded by Rhonda Waggoner.

Open committee chair positions remain for: Yearbook Co-chair, Fall Fundraiser Co-chair, Art Show Chair and Co-chair with Angela Schoeneweiss willing to help.

New Business:

Frank Mander presented information on Tumblebooks to the PTO with the following proposal: Would the PTO be willing to fund 2/3 of the cost for Tumblebooks to be used between the district and Winnebago Public Library? Cost of \$998 annually to budget for PTO starting 2017-18 school year.

Meeting Adjourned at: 6:51