

WINNEBAGO PTO MEETING MINUTES- MONDAY SEPTEMBER 8th, 2014

Sherri Ginger, President Cari Gettle, Vice President Bonnie Bloomquist, Treasurer
Teacher Chairpersons, Kathi Engelkes and Pam Shaver Angela Schoeneweiss, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Secretary's Report: May 2014 minutes were read. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Kristi Provi and seconded by Alicia Glaser.

Treasurer's Report: As of August 9th, 2014, the cash balance is 28,500.02.

Principal's Reports: Mr. Mander: Back to School Night/Open House. Parents are invited to attend Simon's Back to School Cook Out & Open House on Thursday, September 11 starting at 5:00-6:00 for the cookout and 6:00-7:00 for the Open House. This is the 7th year of this event aimed at getting students and their families excited and energized about going back to school. Bring the family along with your lawn chairs and blankets and join us for dinner on the lawn of the school. After dinner, the building will be open, families can get to know the teachers and the facilities. **Fire/Storm Drills:** Simon will have their first fire drill on Friday, September 12. We will be practicing a storm drill this next week also. We will also do a fire drill with the fire department present in October. **STAR 360 Student Assessments:** What are STAR assessments? Renaissance Learning™ pioneered computer-adaptive testing in the classroom in 1996 with the introduction of STAR Reading™, and has been improving upon it ever since. As a result we offer a line of testing products that all function the same, are all built with the same high level of measurement accuracy, and all share the same design principles. **STAR Early Literacy Enterprise:** is the leading computer-based diagnostic assessment of early literacy skills developed for Pre-K–3 students. These tests take 15-20 minutes. STAR Early Literacy Enterprise tracks development in three domains and ten sub-domains:

Word Facility and Skills

Comprehension Strategies and Constructing Meaning

Numbers and Operations

These assessments will start K-2 in a couple of weeks (mid-September). Parents will receive their child's information with their first report card in November. Students who have been identified as "at-risk" from screening from last year or were receiving academic support last year are in the process of being reevaluated to see what level a child is in reading and/or math.

Early Childhood Screening: – October 17 Winnebago CUSD #323 will conduct preschool screenings on Friday, October 17 from 8am – 2:00pm. These children may be eligible to attend the Winnebago School District Preschool for the 2014-15 school year. **Simon Super Heroes and Superhero SPIRIT WEAR:** Simon will be continuing their theme of "Simon Super Heroes" this

year as we practice the "Three R's" of Simon Super Hero behavior (Responsible, Respectful, and Ready). Throughout the year we will have exciting lessons and activities that acknowledge and promote positive behavior. Our first superhero is FLASH! Even though he is the fastest man on Earth, he still walks in the halls and school grounds. Beginning today, each class is working on earning stickers for Superhero Hallway Behavior. All staff members are encouraged to give "lightning bolt stickers" to any class that they see walking or waiting quietly in the hall along with a verbal praise of what you see them doing well. Class progress is tracked on posters in different areas in the building. Classes that complete their Flash charts are able to have the honor of having the Simon Super Shield to display proudly with their classmates. The staff has been wearing their "Simon Super Hero" shirts at the beginning of each week to help remind us of our quest for positive behavior. We will be offering a chance for students to purchase shirts to wear as well. **Picture Day:** Simon picture day is scheduled for Thursday, September 25.

Mr. Monahan: **Back to School Night/Open House:** Although the rain kept us from being outside, we served close to 400 people in the cafeteria from 5:00-6:00. For those who were done eating, we opened our Book Fair up a half hour earlier to allow room for others to eat. Many classrooms were visited and book fair sales were going strong! Thanks to everyone who came by that evening. **Fire/Storm Drills:** McNair held their first fire drill of the year on Friday, September 5. Our next one will be on Monday, October 6, with the Winn-Bur-Sew fire department in recognition of Fire Prevention Week. **Class Enrollment:** We enrolled 29 new students the week before school began at McNair Elementary. This year, we have 303 students enrolled in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. (Grade 3: 81, Grade 4: 101, and Grade 5: 113) **Picture Day:** McNair's Picture Day is scheduled for Thursday, September 25. We'll need a volunteer or two to help with this. **PBIS/McNair PRIDE:** High Fives are being handed out as we speak and our PBIS kick-off will be held the afternoon of Friday, September 19. Students will once again have the opportunity to order t-shirts and more details will be coming soon. Please stop by Culver's next Monday evening, September 15, between 5 and 6 for dinner (or dessert) and see some McNair staff helping out. Proceeds from this evening will go towards our PBIS program. **Student of the Week:** Our first Student of the Week announcements will take place on Friday, October 3. **Band:** 5th graders have been learning about the band program and there will be a parent meeting for any interested students and their parents to learn more about 5th grade band on Thursday, September 18, at 7pm, in the HS gym. **Good Bye NWEA and Hello STAR Enterprise:** This fall, the district has said good bye to NWEA Map Testing in the areas of Reading and Math and welcomed STAR Enterprise Student Assessments. STAR Testing is completed in Reading and Math and the benefits to STAR Enterprise are many. We can more easily screen and progress monitor students, plan for instruction, measure performance and determine growth and effectiveness. The math component tests general math achievement within 54 skill sets, while reading assesses 36 reading skills. McNair students have completed the initial testing and the results will be shared with parents at the end of the first quarter just as NWEA results had been. We are excited about the information these tests will provide. **McNair Classroom Parties:** Parties scheduled this year at McNair are: Halloween, Friday, October 31 (Parade at 1:30 to Prairie View, Party at 2:10) Winter Holiday, Thursday, December 18 (Party at 2:10) Valentine, Friday, February 13 (Party at 2:10) **DARE:** 5th graders will once again be participating in the DARE program, thanks to the generous sponsorship of the

PTO and the Winnebago Lions Club. Officer Tim McGinniss will once again be serving as the DARE officer. He is attending a new one-time training required by DARE America this week. This required training comes with an unexpected cost not planned for and was something just brought to our attention within the last couple of weeks. The training is in Jefferson City, Missouri, and will cost \$400.00 for him to attend. In addition, we'd like to cover his mileage to and from the training (an estimated 800 miles @.56 per mile=\$448.00). He will be able to begin sessions with our students on Wednesday, September 17 and the 10-week program will wrap up on Wednesday, November 19, with graduation taking place on Monday evening, November 24, beginning at 6:30pm in the HS Cafetorium.

Monetary Requests: None taken at this time

Fundraiser Reports: Market Day- Gail Starkey and Kristi Provi-First sale \$320.50. Pies will be sold in October, but no cookie dough bonus in December.

Spirit Wear: Deanne Gustafson and Heather Rundall-Discussion on seeking out other vendors for Spirit Wear. It was motioned by Abby Peterson and seconded by Cari Gettle. Voted on it and it unanimously passed. Designs/pricing will be presented at October's meeting.

Box Tops: Ginnie Cunningham-second collection amount for last year's school year \$1,824.00. Final collection sent in June. A note will be sent out regarding the next collection. Box Tops cut checks twice a year.

Committee Reports: Back to School/ Open House: Gail Starkey and Kristi Provi- served apple slices and cookies from Subway, instead of chips at Mc Nair's open house. Simon's open house will provide apple slices from Mc Donald's and cookies from Sullivan's. Food costs have increased due to federal guidelines.

Birthday Book Program/ School Mall: Bonnie Bloomquist- October 8th the booklets go out. Books are needed for Simon and McNair.

Dare: Mr. Monohan, Sherri Ginger, and Cari Gettle-Lions Club will be donating funds for this event. Officer Tim McGinniss will be able to begin sessions with students on September 17th and end on November 19th. Graduation will be on November 24th at 6:30 in the WHS cafetorium. Increase cost due to re-certification.

Hot Lunch Coordinators: Simon- Shannon Mickelson and McNair- Michelle Cunningham

Building Head Parents: Simon-Angela Bucey and McNair- Cari Gettle and Sherri Ginger

Student Directories: Deanne Gustafson- Look for local advertising for Student Directory and order less this year. ¼ page for \$25-looking for 8 local businesses.

New Business: 2014-2015 Budget Proposal-Bonnie Bloomquist. Copies were handed out at meeting. New folders for Simon and McNair good for two school years at \$1400.00. Purchased appreciation/thank you cards at \$150.00-designed by HS Art. Purchased kazoos for McNair at \$150.00.

Classroom Parties: See principles report for date and times.

Open Chair Positions: Box Tops- Co-Chair needed. Yearbook: no Chairperson at this time. If one is not found for this, it could be eliminated. Coke Rewards: Alicia Glaser and Abby Peterson.

Discussion on changing Chair-person term to Committee/ Group when applicable.

Prairie Farms: Sherri Ginger-any Prairie Farms OUR CAPS YOUR CAUSE purchase code can be entered and redeemed for \$.05 at Prairie Farms website under Winnebago PTO.

New Ideas/ Suggestions: Teacher/Parent conferences- We will be providing food for Parent/Teacher conferences for staff.

PTO Meeting Dates/ Locations: Next meeting is October 6th at 6 p.m. in the McNair library. Future dates are on the Winnebago Schools website. Like Winnebago PTO on FaceBook for announcements and upcoming events.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Angela Schoeneweiss