

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 6:02

Secretary's Report: December 2014 minutes were read. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Tracy Ricks and seconded by Chris Ginger.

Treasurer's Report: As of January 12, 2015, the cash balance is 40,881.68.

Principal's Reports: Mr. Mander- At-Risk Student Update: During the months of September, January, and May, kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd graders will take tests called STAR Reading and Math assessment. We give these assessments to determine a child's instructional level and to measure academic growth from year to year in the areas of mathematics and reading. A child will take the tests on a computer.

A child will spend a total of about 30-40 minutes completing these assessments. Following the assessment, parents will receive a report showing a child's scores in first and third trimester report cards.

#### Reminder about Text Message Service

Get important messages via text messaging. By doing the following:

1. Scan the QR Code (next to this article) with your smartphone
2. Enter this number (815) 401-9303 with this message @simon1415

By joining the group on Remind, you're choosing to receive class messages via push notifications, SMS, or email. Don't worry, your phone number will not be shared with the teacher or anyone else in the group.

#### Winter Preschool Screening – January 16

We will be holding preschool screenings Friday, January 16. As of 1/12/15, we have 6 appointments with 5 openings left. This is the last screening for the 2014-15 school year. Children you are eligible will be able to start preschool in February. Our PreK Screening Committee will be meeting soon to discuss the screening dates for 2015-16. These date usually have been in March and July.

#### Countdown to Kindergarten 2015-16

Information went out regarding our upcoming pre-enrollment for kindergarten for the 2015-16 school year. Information is on the website now. Parents will be able to do an electronic pre-enrollment form starting February 2.

#### Carrie Lynn Presentations for Erin's Law – February 2015

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 February 2015.

#### Toys and Electronics at School

With children receiving many new toys and gifts over the holiday season, it is important to keep toys and electronics at home. If children are bringing items for show-n-tell or for special activities that classroom teachers have planned, the items should be kept in book bags or sacks until it is time to show them or use them in class. Items brought which are considered inappropriate ones for showing at school, or which are used in inappropriate ways, or which cause disruption in the classroom, on the bus, or on the playground will be confiscated by the teacher or principal and will be returned only to parents who come to the office to reclaim them. In some cases, the child will be required to call his/her parents to let them know that the item was taken away or disciplinary actions will be taken.

#### A Note From the Nurse

##### **Recommendations to Parents Regarding Your Ill Child:**

Children should stay home if any of the following are present:

- Fever of 100 degrees
- Upset stomach
- Skin rashes or sores, any lesion on the skin that is draining
- Excessive coughing
- Sore throat
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Headache
- Flushed face
- Contagious illness, such as strep throat or chicken pox

**\*\*Please keep your child home for 24 hours after symptoms (including fever) are gone. If your child's temperature can be kept under 100 degrees only by giving him/her acetaminophen or ibuprofen, your child should stay at home.** Please report all communicable diseases to the school nurse or the school office. These include: strep throat, chicken pox, scarlet fever, pink eye, mononucleosis, fifth disease, mumps, measles, head lice, etc.

#### ACCESS Testing Begins the Week of January 12

I wanted to inform you that in the next five weeks, we are testing our 23 English Language Learners (ELL) students on English proficiency in all buildings. These tests are called the ACCESS. These tests are required by NCLB and state mandated for any ELL student that marked a language spoken other than English.

Each school has a testing proctor who will be working with administration and classroom teachers to schedule the best time to administer the test.

#### Upcoming Items at Simon

- 5 Essential Survey Starts - January 12-March 13
- Carrie Lynn Sexual Abuse Prevention Assemblies - Wednesday, February 11 (date changed)
- Valentine's Day Parties – 10AM for AM Session of PreK/EC and 2pm for PM PreK/EC, K-2
- Severson Dells Assemblies
  - Early Childhood/PreK – Unhuggables (Feb 26)
  - Kindergarten – Salamanders (Feb 24)
  - 1st Grade – Owls (February 12)
  - 2nd Grade – Bats (February 5)
- Midpoint of 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester – January 16

- Report Cards Go Home – Friday, March 6
- Parent/Teacher Conferences (At-Risk Students) – February 26 4:00 pm-7:30 pm

Mr. Monohan- The second quarter officially ended last Friday, January 9, and second quarter report cards will be sent home this Friday, January 16.

There is NO SCHOOL on Monday, January 19, due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Severson Dells programs will be presented here at McNair on the following dates:

Friday, January 16 (4<sup>th</sup> grade) Life is a Competition: Adaptations to Win

Friday, January 23 (5<sup>th</sup> grade) Bats: Fly by Night

Friday, January 30 (3<sup>rd</sup> grade) Owl Moon

Carrie Lynn Center in Rockford will be visiting 4<sup>th</sup> graders on Tuesday, February 10, to share age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention as part of the state mandated Erin's Law. More information will be sent home to parents of 4<sup>th</sup> graders.

Third quarter midterm ends on Friday, February 6, and third quarter midterms will be sent home on Friday, February 13.

Classroom Valentine Parties will be held on Friday, February 13, beginning at 2:10pm.

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Choral Concert will be on Tuesday, February 17 at 6:30pm in the Winnebago High School Cafetorium.

The first 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Concert will be held on **Thursday, February 19** (please note the change of date), beginning at 6:30pm, in the Winnebago High School Cafetorium.

Kids Club 2015-2016 Registration Night will be Thursday, March 12 from 4pm-5:30pm at the Simon cafeteria. Those who register that afternoon will receive \$10 off their registration fee.

5 Essentials Survey Window has opened. Educators and students across Illinois will have an opportunity to participate in the Illinois 5Essentials Survey: Organizing Schools for Improvement. This survey was designed to provide a detailed portrait of the inner workings of a school from an organizational perspective.

This unique opportunity will allow teachers and parents in grades K-12 and students in grades 6-12 to provide feedback on the critical elements of school effectiveness. The Illinois 5Essentials Survey will be administered online by the University of Chicago, on behalf of the Illinois School Board of Education. The 2014-2015 Illinois 5Essentials survey window is January 12 – March 13. If you are interested in completing the parent survey, visit: <https://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois-pilot/>.

### **STAR Enterprise**

Mid-year universal screening of all students in Reading and Math is currently taking place and teachers will then meet to review data and adjust instruction as needed. I will be meeting with grade levels before the end of the month to discuss changes in student scores between September and January.

Today, students in select classrooms piloted the online Reading version of the PARCC test, which has replaced the paper and pencil ISAT test booklets. There are several more factors that come into play with the online test, including keyboarding and mouse maneuvering of answers (all students in grades 3-5 will be taking the PARCC test during the month of March).

Monetary Requests: None at this time.

Fundraiser Reports: Box Tops: Ginnie Cunningham - No report at this time.

Market Day: Gail Starkey and Kristi Provi - met the goal. Spring pies in March and possibly pizzas in May.

Candle Fundraiser: Angie Bucey and Michelle Cunningham - No dates yet on when they will go out.

Spiritwear: Heather Rundall - Had a couple of issues with the manufacturer for the shirts.

Committee Reports: YMCA Night: Abbey Peterson and Tracy Ricks - notes will go out this week for YMCA Night on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Contract still has not been made.

Family Fun Night - Alicia Glaser and Keri Hopkins - March 13<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 at Mc Nair.

Basket Raffle: Cari Gettle - May 7<sup>th</sup> Art show/Basket Raffle.

Yearbook: Jamie Dimke and Abigail Gleason - In need of pictures. Parents can go to Winnebago School website to go to the link to submit yearbook pictures.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Angela Bucey - February 26<sup>th</sup>. In need of volunteers and donations for potluck.

Old Business: Chair people needed:

PTO President (2 year term)

PTO Vice-President (1 or 2 year term)

Basket Raffle - Co-Chair

Box Tops - Co-Chair

Fall Fundraiser - Co-Chair

Thank You Notes: Cari Gettle - Thank you notes look nice.

New business: Wish list - Need a wish list committee. February 9<sup>th</sup> is the due date for wish list items.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04.

Respectfully, submitted, Angela Schoeneweiss