

WCE PTO GENERAL MEETING MINUTES – Nov 20, 2014

Attendance

Jen Blake, Jenny Okamoto, Jeevani Doddapaneni, Kate Lopez, Kim Keleher, Jenny Evans, Kim Kenney, Christy Patel, Kursten Blanchard, Stephanie Blocksom, Jackie Barrett, Amber Obert, Sheri New, Marcia Lushell, Maureen Hubbard, Jennifer Szuhaj, Angelia Thorpe, Christy Patel, June Liao, Sarah Szotek, Ashley Mason

Welcome & Attendance – Meeting opened at 9:02am.

Approval of May Meeting minutes – approved by Jenny Okamoto, seconded by Kim Keleher.

Principal's report - Mrs. Szuhaj gave an updated on different activities going on throughout the school. Family Fun Nigh is Saturday and it looks like it is under control with a lot of parents helping. The Book Fair is going on this week through Friday. We are working on keeping it the #1 book fair in Indiana. The Spell Bowl is tonight. The canned food drive is going on now through December 5th. Recycling has started in the school. The Veteran's Day Program was awesome! Mrs. Szuhaj is still getting emails saying how people were impressed by the children and appreciative of their work. The Author Visit was a success as well with the kids, with a lot of funny stories they came home with. Sy Montgomery said that this was a great group of kids. Mrs. Szuhaj reiterated that saying that the kids are always so kind and thoughtful.

Treasurer's Report – The budget was handed out and Jenny said if anyone had any questions, they could forward them on to Deb Kauffman.

President's Report –

- There is a request for a Carnival Chair(s). This is a very easy job because you delegate out all the work. They want this position in place by January so planning can begin.
- The Canned Food Drive is from November 17th to December 5th.
- Family Fun Night is Friday.
- A motion was put forward by Jenny to fund "Expanding Expression Tool Kit" for the WCE Speech Pathologist. It was seconded by Angelia Thorpe and June Liao.

Additional Business – Kate Lopez spoke about her efforts with the Carmel Green Team. There will be stands on the tables at Family Fun Night that talk about the CCS

Green Team initiative and tips for recycling. 200 Endangered Species bars were donated for the Family Fun Night bake sale table.

Beth Galloway talked about the recycling and Food Rescue program at West Clay. The 4th and 5th graders have been taught how to recycle and what to recycle in the cafeteria. They cannot recycle any contaminated plastics like forks and fruit cups. The kids are doing great and typically fill up a plastic bag. The ESE brings all the teacher's bins down to the dumps on Fridays. Batteries, crayons, ink, and markers are also recycled. The "recycle holiday lights" program will start shortly with a setup in the front office. The Food Rescue program is going great. The kids are trained and are excited to help. Typical weekly numbers are 125 cheese sticks, 125 milk containers, 40 raisin boxes, 100 yogurt cups, apples, taco chips, croutons, and some juice.

Family Fun Night - Kursten gave a recap on Family Fun Night. It is open from 6-8pm. The silent auction and book fair ends at 7:30. She said thank you for all the donations and contributions. City BBQ will be there for dinner to fulfill the dinner reservations as well as a limited number of at the door reservations.

Holiday Faculty Luncheon – Kim Kenney talked about the Holiday Lunch planned for Tuesday, December 16th. She is going to send out a signup genius to ask for donations of homemade salads.

Upcoming Events/Meetings– the following was announced:

- Come to the Book Fair after the meeting.
- Family Fun Night is tomorrow, November 21st.

Meeting Adjourned– Meeting was called to a close at 9:20 and was followed by a very informative presentation by Laura Guzzi from St. Vincent Hospital, about "Stress and Anxiety in Children".

Respectfully submitted,
Jen Blake