Central PTO Board

Minutes of Meeting

December 13, 9:00 am

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Location: Skokie School, Winnetka, IL

Members Present: Nancy Fehrenbach (Chairperson), Melinda Baldwin (Vice Chair-Communications/Technology), Lisa Lux (Treasurer), Heather Bartell (Secretary), Anissa Forman (Co-President Skokie Washburne PTO), Jennifer Pehlke (Co-President Skokie Washburne PTO), Karen York (President Greeley PTO), Heather Pigott (President Hubbard Woods PTO), Dr. Thomas Hagerman (Superintendent Winnetka Public Schools), Kendra Wallace (Liaison from School Board), Dr. Cathy Rosen (Principal Washburne School)

Members Absent: None

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I. President Report- Welcome

II. Secretary Report- Minutes were approved.

 III. Superintendent’s Report- Dr. Thomas Hagerman

Dr Hagerman provided Central PTO with Board highlights from previous month.

A. Board reviewed ISAT scores from previous school year.

B. District is 100% aligned with common core.

C. There is a significant change occurring in the focus of reading programs within the district. Beginning in the grammar schools, the students will be moving from mainly traditional fiction based reading to more information based reading. The intention is to have students in 8th grade reading equal amounts of historical and information based literature in an effort to improve student preparedness. The reading curriculum in high school has a ratio of 75% informational and 25% fictional.

D. The District is working to include more real life applications of practical mathematics into the current curriculum program.

E. School Board contract negotiations are underway and moving forward.

IV. FAN Report- Dr. Cathy Rosen

Dr. Rosen recently attended the holiday luncheon for FAN. She updated the Board on the many exciting speakers series over the next few months. All events can be found on the FAN website. Evanston Township High School is now part of the FAN network

V. PTO Directory Discussion

There was a discussion regarding the idea of moving toward an electronic based directory for the various schools. Based upon discussion, there is still a demand for a paper based directory for many parents in the district. There is concern regarding privacy of information if it would be electronically distributed. At this time there are no anticipated changes in the way directory information is distributed.

VI. VP Communications Report- Melinda Baldwin

All websites and email systems are up to date with a few contracts up for renewal this Spring.

VII. Treasurer’s Report- Lisa Lux

Audit Process is complete.

VIII. Greeley Report- Karen York

Greeley Dream Green will present to Board in January. They are hoping for approval at February Board Meeting. Construction is scheduled to begin the day after school ends with anticipation of a completed project for the beginning of the 2014-15 school year.

IX. Crow Island Report- Barb Brown- absent

X. Holiday Gift Discussion

There was a discussion about the various ways the different schools recognize the teachers and/or staff at the holidays and the end of the year. Each school has a different traditions and variations of expression throughout the year.

XI. School Board Report- Kendra Wallace

Kendra provided on update on the School Board contract negotiations and timeline. Kendra gave an explanation and overview of the Danielson Model that is currently used by several School Districts in the country and being reviewed by our District.

X. Skokie-Washburne Report- Anissa Forman and Jennifer Pehlke

Anissa and Jennifer shared an update on the survey results for the 6th grade social dance. The survey had a high response rate from more than 150 parents. Based upon the survey results, there will not be any significant changes to the program.

IX. Hubbard Woods- Heather Pigott

Hubbard Woods had another successful Book Fair this year. The annual Fall Luncheon which features a speaker was sold out with 60 attendees. HW is looking to make changes to the Spirit Wear program currently in place. The PTO has chosen a lunch provider, Beyond Green.

XII. Other Central PTO Business

There was a discussion regarding current food allergy policies for the district, individual school events, birthday celebrations and hot lunch programs. There seems to be a variation of practices throughout the district.

Meeting concluded at 10:30 am

Minutes submitted by: Heather Bartell, Secretary