# Skokie Washburne PTO Meeting Minutes

**December 16, 2019**

# Holiday Lunch Hosted by Brie Root

**Present:** Brie Root, April Potterfield, Laura Roney, Megan Riley, Amy Kay, Andrew Fenton, Larry Joyner, Betty Weir, Libby Elliott

**I. Minutes approved from last session.**

# II. Principal Report: Andrew Fenton

# Teacher Holiday Lunch Wednesday 12/18

1. Teacher Wish Lists – Thank you again on behalf of school. Over half the items have been ordered.
2. On 12/11 the whole school took part in a service project school service project to benefit Feed My Starving Children and Northwestern Settlement House. There were 85 8th graders at a Target in Vernon Hills with reports that all students were well behaved.
3. Washburne Skating Party to be held on Friday, 12/20.

# Principal Report: Betty Weir /Larry Joynt

# Two new students are transferring into Skokie this semester.

1. Thank you for PTO wish lists
2. Continued SEL work update includes gratitude lists- connection to Thanksgiving holiday; Friendships –discussing the differences between mean and rude/joking and teasing/ how things are intended versus perceived
3. Lions of Leadership- how do we get parents more involved in our SEL work? Looking for resources from within the community, including discussion prompts, hand brain model, zones of regulation, talking about student/parent quiz, but students want discussion materials. Looking for parents and students to share their own experiences with each other. Looking for parent feedback.
4. **Central PTO: April Potterfield**
5. April sent out a list of questions from district in advance and shared those thoughts with the group. Feedback including the following:
6. Positives: the access to teachers; the depth of communication from teachers and administration; excellent teachers and staff members; class placement decisions.
7. Concerns: facilities (the referendum didn’t pass, so what is the direction the district is going in?); consistency across the classes – (talking about 5th and 6th grade the curriculum and homework being handled in different ways in different classrooms; having enough support teachers in classrooms and a lag in identifying those needs (how can the school system help when kids are just starting out in in Kindergarten?).
8. Superintendent Kocanda – architects are looking for efficiencies in creating a new master plan. Targeting an April referendum for 2021. Fall 2023 is planned Skokie closure date. Coming up with a Plan A and B.
9. Green Tea Meeting – Skokie doesn’t have any composting. There’s a plan to push for more participation during Earth Week. Proposed Green Apple Day of Service
10. If schools get remodeled, cafeterias will need to be designed with space for recycling, composting and regular trash
11. **Treasurer Report: Amy Kay**
12. Tracked down missing checks – The Grand and The Write Stuff checks went to the District Office.
13. Received $1,000 in Grand receipts
14. The Write Stuff Check was $1300- $300 more than budgeted.
15. After Teacher Gifts - $2400 left for end of year breakfast and retirement gifts (normally PTO gives a $100 gift certificate for retiring teachers.

**VI. Co-Chair Report: Megan Riley**

1. Contacted about participation in this year’s Lurie Dance Marathon and whether or not are we ok as a PTO to send out communication when it’s time. When the time is right (March) PTO will send out a communication. The plan is to attach the event to the school day and run a Monday schedule on that day.