**Skokie-Washburne PTO Meeting Minutes**

**February 10, 2020**

**Attendance: Laura Roney, Ben Horwitz, Andrew Fenton, Larry Joynt, Betty Weir, Brie Root, Kymm Junker, Libby Elliott, Meg Moudy, Victoria, Megan Riley**

1. **Minutes approved**
2. **Principal Reports – Betty Weir/Larry Joynt**
3. SEL Discussion Home Prompts –are parents are having these discussions at home? Should Skokie School try tweeting messages? The school is working to get away from paper communications.
4. Feedback from teachers that conferences went well. Four principals attended WPI’s presentation “Not quite teenagers; Not quite little kids,” which drew 25 attendees – predominantly 4th grade parents.
5. Skokie School Inquiry period will be different this year. Past two years the kids have been doing two weeks at end of each trimester. Feedback suggested this was disjointed so instead of doing three separate times, now doing one. Same day as state testing – morning testing – afternoon inquiry. Hoping it will be more consistent and a nice antidote to the stress of testing. 5th grade – focused on hand brain connection. 6th grade – focused on how they can make a difference in the world based on their passions.
6. **Principal Reports - Andrew Fenton/Ben Horwitz**
7. The district is videotaping all WPI sessions, including 2/25 advisory coffee with Maureen Miller showcasing digital responsibility. D36 has appreciated PTO input.
8. Dance marathon- coming up in March – links went out to attract interest in being part of that event. Administrators are try to do it right after school to get as much student participation as possible. The event raises funds for Lurie’s children. Participants will receive t-shirts. Brie Root noted that last year’s event drew very low 8th grade participation. Hoping this year’s attendance will be higher by using student ambassadors to spread the word.
9. New Trier will be at Washburne to do scheduling conferences for 8th families. The practice of meeting in person will ALL families is new this year and open to any family who wants to meet to discuss their child’s schedule. A large number of parents have signed up.
10. **Co-Chair reports**
    1. Slate Nominations – a few names are being put in hat. Co-chairs will spend the next few days narrowing things down.
    2. Lurie fundraiser- Amy Kay has suggested that Sproutsville work with Skokie to help promote fundraising. A pizza fundraiser has proven to be the most successful during lunch and would replace regular Sproutsville lunch service. The fundraiser would have pizza on site for provided the PTO willing to forgo $.75 its gets from each lunch to donate to Lurie Children’s Hospital. The PTO agreed to forgo this money.
    3. School supplies deadline- The Write Stuff – 4/1/20 for 5th/6th grade. Andrew Fenton wants to talk to Washburne staff about creating a consistent 7th and 8th grade supplies list rather than making it team specific.
11. **Central PTO update** –
12. New Trier Township is officially in with CASEL alignment.
13. Stuart Rodgers photography will be centralizing photo contract for a savings of $650 across all the schools.
14. Central PTO has decided to hold off consolidating lunch programs.
15. 100-year celebration of Winnetka Schools 6-8 pm 3/10 at Washburne.
16. No finding of discrimination regarding grievance filed by community member.
17. Subcontractors have background checks. Now reviewing the subcontractor employment processes. Swiping with a system that enhances security.
18. D36 School Board member gave a presentation on facilities master plan. District has made a firm commitment to 3 elementary schools, plus one grades 5-8 central facility and decommissioning Skokie in 2023. Optimistic about cost savings and already meeting with partners who may want to lease the building.
19. **VP Co-Chair report**
    1. Proposing same time for PTO meetings next year.
20. **Communications Report**
21. Sent out Sproutsville Communication for Valentine’s Special Order.
22. Holding off on sending out slating email because Bridgit Orsic already has very long list.
23. Sent out flyer for Advisory Coffee morning. RSVP just for planning purposes, although people are welcome to show up on the day.
24. **Upcoming dates**
    1. Dance Marathon March 6th, 3:30-5:30pm
    2. St. Baldrick’s, 4/20 at 2:45pm
    3. 4/23 5th grade orientation at Skokie School