

Date: February 16th, 2011

Location: Library

Meeting began 6:33

Meeting adjourned: 7:11pm

Next General Meeting:

Date: March 16, 2011

Location: Valhalla Commons

Time: 6:30pm

Attendees:

Larry Hauser, Monty Potter, Jack and Vicki Chandler, Kim Meschter, Renee King, Gretchen Battis, Sue McIntyre, Jaleane Moore, Rachel Jorren, Colin Nelson, Michele Cordi, Chris Gonzalez, Rachel Gonzalez, Erin Barry, Maricela Chavez, Sarah Szczepanski, Stephanie Nguyen, Mr. Smith, Kaylen Jewell, Jaleane Moore

Welcome

- Monty welcomed all in attendance. He shared some upcoming events: Male in your life lunch /spirit day /100th day and students will be able to wear pajamas to school. There are currently 120 people planning on attending this event.
- The soccer goals and e-books have arrived as well as new letters for the reader board!
- The two Showare fundraisers have raised over \$1,400. The PTA signed up for two events this year at Showare to evaluate their success and those involved hope to continue for next year. We need to have more members certified with Mixologist and Food Handlers licenses. (see PTA website for details) If anyone has additional questions they can contact Melanie Miles @ melaniemiles@comcast.net

Current Events and Updates:

Movie night recap

- At the Feb. movie night the 4th grade sold concessions and made \$175. 150 to 200 showed up for the event.

Spring Scholastic Book fair

Location: Library

- Date: March 17-25
- Chair: Aliza Hauser

PTA Awards

- Nominations forms are available on the PTA website and at the PTA Communication Board for the Golden Acorn, Outstanding Advocate and Outstanding Educator Awards. Forms may be submitted to school office/PTA mailbox by April 29. An awards committee will make final selections and presentations will be made at the PTA Carnival on June 3.

New Technology: Mr. Smith

- Two new interactive whiteboards have been purchased and there active slates for classroom teachers have been added as well. The Rotary club will be visiting Valhalla to see how they are working. (The Rotary have provided financial support for these additions!)

School Musical:

- Approximately 93 students tried out for the school musical. The school will be putting on two separate musicals due to the large number and across the board ages of students that are involved. This is the largest number we've had try out since we began.

Financials:

- As of January 31, 2011 our total assets are \$19,889.12 and our net income is \$6000.
- The general membership voted to approve items up to \$4000 as special projects this year. (This included: e-books, soccer goals and spotlight)
- It was noted that the Winter fundraiser has been moved to the fall fundraiser.
- A motion was passed to approve the financials for January 31, 2011
- The bank statements were reviewed by a non board member / treasurer and approved.

Nomination Committee:

- Gretchen Battis, Jack Chandler and Elizabeth Bagnell are the nominating committee members and if anyone is interested in a board position next year please contact them.
- The state of new officers will be presented at the March 16 general meeting and there will be a vote for the new officers at the April 20th meeting.

Bingo Night:

- Location: Commons
- Date: February 25th
- Chair: Larry Hauser
- We have volunteers signed up to help out for this event. Jack, Monty and Larry Hauser will help set up. Michelle Cordi and Vicki Chandler will run concessions and Aliza Hauser and Rachel Jorren will sell bingo cards and raffle tickets. Though we are looking for additional volunteers throughout the evening we are currently looking for few more games for ages 7+ as well as other family raffle prizes.

E-books: Kim Meschter

- A demonstration was given on how to access, search and use e-books. The Valhalla library can be accessed from home or any other computer through the following website:
<http://library.fwps.org/>
- This link will allow you to search all of the books at Valhalla including the 175 e-books, but only one book can be checked out at a time. Some books have a read out loud feature which is helpful for beginning readers.
- Only 4-5th graders are allowed to place books on hold and can access the library using their own account with a personal password.
- Parents can also open their own account to aid their younger children
- For additional information please contact:
 - Kim Meschter, Librarian: kmeschre@fwps.org
 -

Internet Safety: Kaylen Jewell, Erin Barry, Kim Meschter

- There was a review of internet safety and how elementary students may not fully understand the impact of social network sites, sharing pictures or videos. Students need to be educated and taught what is considered inappropriate conduct, contact and content. The transition between off line and online can be a difficult one and it is important to know the difference. Students at this age typically do not make the connection between the communications between one person or many others. Communication through social network sites or e-mail can be seen by many people and are not necessarily private. This is a line which needs to be discussed with our students.
- For additional information please contact:
 - Kaylen Jewell: Counselor: kjewell@fwps.org
 - Erin Barry, Counselor: ebarry@fwps.org
 - Kim Meschter, Librarian: kmeschre@fwps.org

Cyber bullying: Kaylen Jewell, Erin Barry, Kim Meschter

- Cyber bullying may not be as visible as typical bullying which may cause students to hold in their frustrations. As a result it may be difficult to notice if a student has been subject to such harassment.
- It is important to talk to you children and encourage them to discuss these situations with you. Make sure that home computers are located in common areas and are in the open to make sure your children are viewing and searching for appropriate content. If you child id harassed collect evidence and block e-mails or phone numbers of their bullies. It is also important to encourage them to not forward harassing messages to other students. As a parent we must provide proper guidance so that our children will understand what actions to take if they are harassed.
- Students are sharing passwords and account information with others which leaves the door open for the opportunity to widen the spread of harassment. Students should keep this information secret and change their passwords often.
- Many 4th and 5th graders have Facebook accounts but do not understand how to use them properly. Many accounts are unsecure which allows anyone, not including their friends to view.

General Meeting Notes: January 19th, 2011

A motion was passed to approve the notes from January's meeting.

Donations from businesses so far: \$500!

- A total of \$500 in donations have been collected so far.
- The Boeing Machinist Union will be providing volunteers for the carnival and Boeing will donate some matching funds for volunteer hours they provide.

Submitted by:
Larry Hauser
Secretary

Approved:

Vicki Chandler
Co-Chair
Monty Potter
Co-Chair