

Willard PTG Board Meeting

December 14, 2009 Minutes

In attendance: Grace Ryan, Kim Piculell, Amy Mueller, Pam Reed, Kathi O'Neil, Aimee Cupp, Kate Olney, Charlyn Bethell, Sue Bumpus, Jennifer Waldron, Pat Fernandes, Alex Kuchar, Jen Clarke, Christine Evans, Debbie Osofsky

November Meeting minutes approved via e-mail.

Welcome (Cupp/Olney)

Principal Report (Fernandes)

- All classrooms now have new voice enhancement microphones and speakers that allow for kids to hear better and for teachers not to have to raise their voices. Operates on an infrared signal. A few classrooms with glass may need to swap equipment for better signal.
- Punch list items continue to be addressed, no clear date yet as to when the items will be finished
- Progress reports will be issued the end of the first week of February
- Congratulations on Family Game Night—great attendance
- No one attended the Principal's Coffee held just prior to this meeting
- Item was sent in the Weekly about gift giving to teachers and rules governing those gifts to provide greater clarification. Pat stressed that no gifts are necessary.
- Elementary colleagues from Alcott and Thoreau will be at Willard tomorrow, Dec. 15th, to collaborate with Willard teachers
- Laurie Penney is hosting a workshop on Jan. 27 for parents to learn more about the Investigations math program
- New plaques in entryway are great additions highlighting green features of the school
- Only one teacher so far has expressed interest in going to Nanae following Pat's request for interested persons

Treasury Report (O'Neil)

- Shade Structure has been paid in full including site work.
- Profit from Family Game Night was \$600. Teachers were given the games they wanted at cost
- Parent Social is now in the black after a few more checks were deposited
- Tax returns have been filed
- Belmont Springs is continuing to charge us (\$81) for water cooler. It had become unusable due to mold (called for pickup, but it never happened) and then was thrown out. Kathi has cancelled service, is disputing charge, and will continue to follow up with Belmont Springs.

Fundraising (Kuchar/Mueller/Reed)

- We have just over 40% participation with collections at about \$17,000
- A suggestion was made to have another e-mail blast after the holidays to encourage donations that can be used for tax deductions.

Communications (Evans/Waldron)

- Website will be up in January and will hopefully be presented in February.

President Report (Cupp/Olney)

- Lost and Found will be donated to Good Will over the holidays. An item will be put in the Weekly to encourage parents to check for lost items before then.
- Coffee for teachers—supplies seem okay right now. Michelle Ernst orders more when needed. Suggestion was made to change the name on the coffee account to current Board member(s).

Additional Items for Discussion--

Room Parent Job Description and Gift Giving Guidelines (Jen Clarke)

- Appreciated that gift giving guidelines per state ethics rules were sent by Pat to the community. It was noted later in the discussion that if the gift is for the classroom (not personally for the teacher), there are different guidelines. Pat will get more clarification on this.
- Incorporated some of our feedback into the original draft that we saw last month. She is waiting on feedback from Rachael Morris on teacher feedback and then will submit revised document for Board approval.
- General consensus is that process for selecting room parents should be fair and equitable. Jen wants to still use the summer mailing to send out the room parent job description with a tear off sheet on which parents can express interest. Folks who haven't filled the role before in the previous year have first dibs on the job. At the Open House, any gaps can be filled by signing up to express interest. One suggestion was made that the sign up sheet be sent with the class placement lists since that mailing is always read. Another suggestion was to publicize changes in how room parents are selected in the Weekly beginning in June. Reminder that for some classes there is lots of interest in the job. For others, the room parent coordinator must seek volunteers. It was also pointed out that with no food allowed in classroom events and with many teachers coordinating volunteers themselves, that the job is becoming more defined. Other concerns were expressed e.g. perception that room parents are volunteering for all the roles teachers have versus asking for volunteers from the full class; or that a parent who helps for one child's class one year won't be able to help in another child's class

DVD version of last year's Talent Show (Evans)

- Andy Evans has completed a DVD movie of last year's Talent Show. It will have separate chapters for each act.
- Suggestion was made to offer it to interested families at cost (\$5 for case, label, DVD itself)

- Participants all signed document giving permission for use of their image. Copyright is to Willard PTG.
- Recommended for next year that the document giving permission for use of image in Talent Show should be a yes/no box for each individual participant.

Next meeting is Monday, January 11, 2010