

Henking Hoffman PTA Meeting
Tuesday, December 11, 2007
Hoffman

The PTA Meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather. All of District 34 was closed for the day. Consequently, the meeting was not held but the Principals and Committee Chairs submitted their meeting notes regarding information they would have shared if the meeting had occurred.

Principals Report

Mark Walther-Hoffman School

1. Artist in Residence-Thank you PTA! Your Cultural Arts support made this unique event happen!
2. Holiday Helper-Wow! 92 families benefited from this event. Thank you Marguerite Cole, Sue Haramaras, Cherie DiCesare and the 100's of students and families who helped make this a success!
3. SKOOL AID-Wow! Thank you Judy Zimmerman, Val Spingola and Stephanie Whisler! Many school supply items were collected the week of December 3-7.
4. Glenview Holiday Parade-50 choir members marched for Hoffman/Character Counts!
5. Movie Night on December 7-"Cats & Dogs" Wow! Thank you Beth Boland and Meridith McKinley.
6. PLC Training December 13-14.
7. Construction moving along nicely!
8. LSC/GEF Grant-HE/HO LSC University received \$3500.

Neil Siegellak-Henking School

Skool Aid: Supply collections at each grade level brought in many items for donation to McNair Academy. Also donated was \$385 towards supplies.

Drama: A Drama Teacher-in-Residence will be coming to Henking School on Thursdays for ten weeks. She has not been selected yet. The Drama Teacher-in-Residence will work with Hilary Settle and Karen Sarasin and teach first and second graders during 30 minute lessons. The main purpose is to provide insight into strategies to meet the educational needs of students as related to the drama curriculum.

Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee: The next meeting is January 7 at 6:30 at Attea Middle School. The BPAC was formed last year with bylaws

established. Kerry Berger and Lillian Uhler are co-secretaries. The bilingual program will be extended to Hoffman School next year as the second graders move on to third grade. The BPAC is vital for maintaining a strong school-parent partnership in supporting the growth of the children.

Pod casts/V-Casts: The first 6 weeks focus on *Character Counts!* New since last year-episodes feature video in addition to audio. Check out the first three episodes at www.glenview34.org/he. Teachers will air the *Character Counts!* episodes during the week of Martin Luther King Day.

Grants: Dawn Safranek, Madeline Collins, Steve Larenas, Chris Stoga, Bill Norberg and Paul Rosencrans were awarded Glenview Education Foundation grants. Students will benefit from having additional equipment for use during physical education classes. Other grants support bilingual and early childhood at-risk students. Also, students who are having difficulty in reading will benefit from a program called, *Read Naturally*.

Upcoming Events: LSC University: Next topic: Internet Safety; January 23, 2008 at Henking School which will coincide with an evening PTA Meeting beginning at 7p.m. Brian Engle, Director of Educational Technology will present information and answer questions.

-Holiday Program: December 20, 2007 @ 10:00 and 2:00 (Refer to classroom schedules that were sent home).

-Charlotte's Web Assembly: January 10

-Hedgehog Visit for kindergarten January 18

Have a terrific winter break. Best wishes for a healthy and happy 2008!

Committee Reports

PTA Website-Gina Pryor

We have a PTA web site! It is www.henkinghoffmnapta.org. What do you think of the colors? Do you feel it's user-friendly? Do you like the "Events" section on every page (I'm thinking of adding a link to "Events" that would take you to the complete line up of HE/HO events and dates)? Would you come back?

PLEASE note and take into consideration that the site is not completely updated. Because LY/PR was kind enough to allow us to copy their content, we did. That helped to get us up a little quicker. Now we need to ensure the pages reflect HE/HO. How will that get done...through the dedication of the Committee Chairs. In order for our school's PTA web site to be successful I

need input and support from the PTA Board Committee Chairs first and foremost, the Principals, office staff and technology staff.

I recommend the Chairs click on their respective links and review the current information and then modify from there or start from scratch. I need the info typed up and e-mailed to me. It can be a Word document or e-mailed to me at ginapryor@sbcglobal.net. If you have a form it must be submitted in Word or I will need it in a picture format. If you have pictures, you can send those as well. There are other pages (Board position descriptions that need to be verified by either the PTA President and/or the PTA Executive Board. Please get this info to me as soon as possible.

I am also working on our e-mail registration. Please check this out when you are at the web-site and give me your feedback. Once you are registered you will receive e-mail Newsletters on an as needed basis. I am still working with LY/PR webmaster and need to schedule some time with their Electronic Communications person to get me up to speed. Until we have more content updated, please do not share the web site link with the general population.

Holiday helper-Marguerite Cole

We served 89 families this year out of a possible 133. We had tremendous help as usual and this is what makes this program work so well. A few changes we'd like to see for next year: have a window from 9 to 10 on pack up day for families to drop off gifts. Pack up would be from 10 to 11:15. Mark, Neal and I waited until after noon for some kids to get picked up by their parents because we were done so early. We finished early last year too so we'd like to shorten the time.

Food donations seemed noticeably off from past years-we had to buy a lot of food. I don't know how to encourage more contributions towards that but would like to have those donations increase next year. Also, if we know of Girl/Boy Scout Troops that want help we should have designated tasks for them-check-in, monitor food tables, help people carry gifts, etc. They seem to like to work together and that would leave more boxes to fill for the other volunteers. I may think of a few more things but that's what jumps out right now. Working with Sue Haramaras was awesome and we both definitely want to do Holiday Helper next year.

Movie Night-Meredith McKinley

Movie Night went very smoothly and it seemed like all of the children enjoyed the movie “Cats & Dogs”. We had about 11 volunteers which really helped the night work out well. Mark and the two custodians were there as was Judy Jedlink and we were very appreciative of their time. We don’t have firm numbers yet but here are some estimates.

-We had about 220 paid attendees (most everyone made a donation) which brought in \$657. Our expenses are about \$65.75 for popcorn and water and then a \$25 gift card for Judy. The rest will benefit the Debra Gelfand Fund and should total about \$566.25. We will get back to you with our firm numbers.

-For sign-in, we had a separate table for people who had not pre-registered to fill out their forms. This table was a bit apart from the other check-in tables and this cut down on the wait time. We should tape down the pens because they kept walking off.

-For sign-out we assigned two volunteers to “guard” the doorway to make sure the children were leaving with a parent. They were all trying to get out of the door at once and those volunteers were very helpful in making sure the children were dismissed safely.

-We had an intermission raffle with four items. Each item was displayed and had a bucket in front of it on the table. As children signed in, they received two raffle tickets to put in the buckets of their choice. The four items were: a \$20 Family Video Gift Card donated by Letty, two t-shirts (One HE and one HO) and a pair of flannel pants (HO)-all Spirit wear provided by Michelle Davis. The items were a big hit!

Cultural Arts-Henking-Mary Patronik

We’re firming up the schedule of assemblies for Henking Cultural Arts programs.

1. Charlotte’s Web on January 10 (musical play)
2. Hedgehog visits to the kindergarten classrooms on January 18.
3. Mother Goose visits Kindergarten in February (TBD)
4. A Child’s Voice poetry workshop for 1st and 2nd grades on April 2.
5. Chicago Voice Exchange, an a capella singing group on May 12.
6. Chicago Boyz Acrobat team for Spirit Day on June 6.

Cultural Arts-Hoffman-Marcy Sotirchos

During the week of December 3rd, our artist in residence, Kevin Olis, returned to Hoffman School to tackle stage 2 of our amazing Wood Sculpture Project. Under the direction and guidance of art teacher, Eric

Utech and Mr. Olis, the students received a mini lesson on painting their self-portraits using acrylic paint, and then enjoyed the process of mixing colors to capture their unique features and coloring. The result is a group of self portraits representing the Hoffman School student body in the year 2007 that will line the walls of the new school addition. The project's theme is that although our faces may appear different, inside we share many of the same emotions-hope, fear, happiness and the need to belong. The creation of this project was the coordinated effort of many people. A special thank you to Mr. Eric Utech, who supervised, directed and fully supported this art project in its entirety. Also, a great big thank you to each and every Hoffman student who gave this project the attention it deserved. Finally, so many thanks to the following parent volunteers who donated their time during this busy holiday season to ensure the project's success: Cindy Berg, Jackie Castelli, Marguerite Cole, Jane Crouth, Cathy Freidinger, Melissa & Steve Ignelzi, Therese Kinsley, Linda Kraft, Meredith McKinley, Susan McMillin, Linda Murphy, Martha O'Connell, Carrie O'Gara, Mary Patronik, Maureen Pekosh, Liz Skweres, BethAnne Solem, Melissa Walsh and Judy Zimmerman.

Auction/Benefit-Melissa Ignelzi, Kathy Pagano and Tammy Langas

Theme: A Night at the Races
Date: Friday, April 4, 2008
Place: Northbrook Hilton
Attire: Casual

This year the benefit will be taking a little different spin. Although we are always focused on raising as much as we can for our schools we are also focusing on having FUN! A fun and wonderful evening out with your spouse, friends and neighbors. A great way for our community to get to know one another!

We are currently looking at a program that has 6-8 horse races where attendees can purchase "Chance Drawings" to place bets on horses. There would be prizes for "Win, Place & Show"-first, second and third place horses. We are currently looking for two people to help us manage this event.

Mikaela Spalding and Sue Haramaras are once again heading up our decorations committee! We are very lucky and excited to have them back on the team!

Nick Dale, Jodi Hiller, Kaki Voss and Maggie Carmain are heading up our gift gathering committee. This committee will be focusing along with the chairs to put together a “Trifecta” table of the most wanted, most bid on, the most exciting items and packages.

There will be three main tables or groupings to bid on at the benefit: Class projects, staff donations and the Trifecta table. The class projects will be headed by Kathy Pagano. Meredith McKinley and Beth Boland are once again heading the staff donations. They already have the ball rolling...they have had their meetings at both Henking and Hoffman and already have many teachers signed up to donate their time. Thanks to the teachers as well as Meredith and Beth!

We are currently putting together a list of other committees and volunteers that are needed. Tammy Langas will once again be keeping everyone up to date on the event, our needs and other details in the school newsletters. If anyone would like to volunteer or have any questions please contact Melissa Ignelzi at H(847)486-9988 or C(847)368-1126.