

Henking Hoffman PTA Meeting  
Tuesday, April 15, 2008  
Hoffman

***TO BE APPROVED AT THE MAY PTA MEETING***

Called to order: 9:24 AM

Attendees: Mary Patronik, Mark Walther, Letty Hawkes, Angela McCune, Kathy Pagano, Marcy Sotirchos, Neal Siegellak, Melissa Ignelzi, Tammy Langas, Marguerite Cole, Tim Patronik and Gina Pryor

**President's Report: Letty Hawkes**

At PTA Council, Dr. Hill discussed the need for a new school for District 34. Between 2003 and 2012, 1000 extra students will be added to the District. A New School Task Force was formed to look at the different options of where the school should be built and what student population will use this school. The financing for a new school would come from a referendum. The District has launched E-District News to share news with the families in the District. Currently, the School Look is produced six times a year but with these electronic updates that will decrease to five publications a year.

A motion was introduced and approved to increase PTA Membership dues from \$10 to \$12 effective May 1, 2008. Any Kindergarten families that registered in March and paid \$10 will not have to pay the increase in dues.

**Treasurers Report: Laura Horwitz**

Laura handed out copies of the budget. She reminded us that even though the auction made \$50,000, \$26,000 of that amount is needed to support PTA Cultural Arts and other PTA Programs. Laura is still waiting for bills and receipts from Movie Night at Henking.

**Principals Report**

**Neal Siegellak-Henking School**

2008-09 Planning:

The BOE has approved two double-mobiles for Henking and Westbrook Schools. The Henking mobiles will be located on the blacktop path that joins the east basketball blacktop with the smaller blacktop. I will be working with a committee of teachers to develop options for classroom usage for next year.

A task force will be assembled for the district to determine the configuration of a ninth school that the BOE has approved to be built.

Henking has begun its search for a classroom teacher for each grade level, an ELL teacher, a Special Education Resource teacher, and a social worker.

Class Placement for 2008-09: I will be working with teachers before the end of this school year, to place students into classes for next year. In this week's newsletter I ask

that parents provide input regarding their child's social and academic skills to help us in making the best placement possible for a successful school year.

LSC University: The LSC has decided to wait until next fall for its next course to be presented. This will provide more time for planning. LSC elections will take place during *Open Houses* (May 8 for Hoffman; May 27 for Henking). Henking is still searching for nominees.

Open House at Henking: The originally scheduled date of May 15 has been **changed to May 27**.

"A Child's Voice" at Henking: Bill Buczinsky incorporated music and movement into his poetry. Students were chosen at random to assist Mr. Buczinski during the presentation. Thank you to Mary Patronik for arranging the event.

Auction Benefit: Thank you to Tammy Langas, Kathy Pagano, and Melissa Ignelzi for the effort to coordinate the evening. Meredith McKinley and Beth Boland helped with organizing staff attendance and auction items. Thank you to the entire PTA Board and community for participating in many different ways to make the evening successful. Miya and I had a wonderful time. Teachers are already brainstorming ideas for using the funds for school improvements.

Earth Week: Earth Week will be the week of April 21. Melissa Walsh is planning activities, including a *Tree Dedication*, for the tree that was planted following the Reusable Bag sale last fall. The flyer detailing the week's events will be sent to families this week.

TV Turnoff Week: *TV Turnoff Week* will coincide with *Earth Week*, the week of April 21. Caryl Doetsch and Rachel Davidson are working with Shonne Fegan-Ehrhardt to schedule events and information will be sent home soon.

District 34 Family Night: The PTA Council sponsored, *Family Night* is scheduled for April 24. Teachers are expected to avoid assigning homework for this night.

Hoffman Musical: Henking students will attend the Hoffman Musical on May 16. Afternoon kindergarten will attend a dress rehearsal on May 15.

Hoffman Choir: The Hoffman Choir will visit and present two performances on May 2.

Drama: Ellie Hayman is a theater professional who is currently visiting Henking School on Thursdays. She is working with first and second grade students for six weeks followed by four weeks of drama with second grade students. Ms. Hayman plans lessons with Henking's music and drama teachers each week. This is a professional development opportunity for the teachers develop the drama curriculum and utilize effective strategies with students to follow the curriculum. This has been coordinated through a partnership

of Glenview School District 34 and the Metropolis Theater for the Performing Arts in Arlington Heights.

Literacy Coaching: The part-time literacy specialist from Pleasant Ridge is working on literacy with primarily kindergarten teachers one day each week. The main purpose of the coaching is to help teachers reflect on their current balanced literacy practices and make adjustments as needed. Three teachers will attend a two-day literacy coaching training on May 14 and 15.

Kindergarten Spring Sing: Ms. Settle will welcome parents for this event at 10:00 and 2:00 on May 9.

### **Mark Walther-Hoffman School**

-PTA Benefit-Thank you to Melissa Ignelzi, Kathy Pagano and Tammy Langas! Also, thanks to Letty Hawkes and all the Room Parents and parents who made this evening possible.

-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Robert Crown Human Growth and Development sessions went very well here at Hoffman. We hope to offer it at Hoffman again next year instead of traveling to Hinsdale.

-Master Schedule for 2008-09 does not allow for all school Cultural Arts Events. Instead will have a 5<sup>th</sup> grade play and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades will have some type of Fine Arts Event geared to their grade level.

-Parent Input for student placement for 2008-09 will go home on April 16 and is due back May 16.

-Betsy Allen is moving from 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade and her students are being offered a looping option.

-Mara Pierce returned today and Julie Hock is due May 6<sup>th</sup>.

-Officer Friendly is here at Hoffman this week.

-TV Turn Off Week is April 21-25.

-Earth Week is April 21-25 and Hoffman will participate in Waste Free Lunches and the Nike Gym Shoe Recycling Program.

-Take Your Child to Work Day is Thursday April 24. Students are discouraged to participate and will be marked absent.

-Family Day is April 24 and no homework will be given on that night to encourage families to spend time together.

-Spring NWEA Testing begins April 28 and continues until May 7.

-Band/Orchestra/Choir Concert is on Thursday May 1.

-2<sup>nd</sup> grade Student Orientation is on Tuesday May 6 from 10:30 AM-1:30 PM.

-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Parent Orientation is on Thursday, May 8 from 6:00-7:00 PM. Open House for all parents is from 6:30-7:30 PM.

-Tiffany Raine a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader at Hoffman won the Character Counts Essay Contest.

Tonight she will be recognized tonight at the Village Board meeting.

-Field day is on the last day of school-Wednesday, June 11.

## Committee Reports

### Auction Update-Tammy Langas, Melissa Ignelzi and Kathy Pagano

Total - \$50,000 - more to come from Laura

1. Sold \$37,219 worth of Auction items – 140 packages less than last year
  - a. Class Gifts - \$735 less than last year – reason is economy and larger amount of classes dilute the bidders.
  - b. Staff Gifts – about the same as last year – closed first so might have had a little more upswing on donations but they were reasonably priced, fair and had to close first because we would have lost upswing on bigger items. Melissa, Kathy, and I solicited local businesses and found donors to underwrite the costs involved with the teacher donations.
  - c. Trifecta Table – worked very well due to a focused wish list based on previous auctions’ sales and the neighborhood gift gathering chairs. A more focused effort paid off. Average amount spent was \$336 but we had 18 people spend between \$500 and \$2950 and 62 people spend between \$100 and \$500, 34 spend \$100 and under. This does not include any people that spent money on the horse races but not on the tables. In this economy, people want to spend money to bring items home and I think that they say, I will spend up to \$300 for the schools, or some fixed amount and we had a lot in that price range.
  - d. Less consignment items – we found a more reasonable consignment vendor and lowered the amount of consignment items. Last year, we sold a ton, but you don’t make a lot of money and the buyers could have put their money elsewhere on the tables.
  - e. Horse Races – we brought in \$2850 at \$5 a ticket – big success – were looking to break even. People seemed to enjoy this aspect of the evening.
  
2. Why we made \$6000 less than last year with much less items?
  - a. Teacher Sponsors – about the same donated, a few more came this year but about the same.
  - b. Raffle – made about \$1000 more last year with the Vegas and 50/50 drawing, but we made up for that plus some with the Horse Races
  - c. Credit Card fees were down
  - d. Straight out donations were up or about the same
  - e. Advertising was up \$850
  - f. Invitations were donated both years
  - g. Tickets went up \$5 to not undercut the other PTA Auctions and to combat rising costs. We were able to keep our costs down with donated invitations (both years), donated decoration expenses, donated staff donations certificates this year and a band that gave us a huge discount (only \$1000) so we did make a few dollars on the ticket this year.
  
3. Next year – I would love to see either an Auction similar to what we did with a more casual theme or a Pinstripes type event with Staff Donations, Class Gifts and maybe 10 big items, similar to GEF. The problem with that though is, our base likes to buy stuff and get a deal – they do not like to dance.

I would not increase the amount of items, not worth the work involved and you dilute your bids. The other PTA's did that this year and didn't make as much money. People still bought the raffle tickets with a higher price.

### **Cultural Arts-Mary Patronik**

HE Health & Safety: conducted lice checks after spring break with no incidences!

HE Cultural Arts: - 4/2 Poetry Day: A Child's Voice performance for 1st and 2nd grades and workshops in each 2nd grade classroom.

- Upcoming: 5/12 Chicago Voice Exchange assemblies (a capella) and 6/6 Chicago Boyz Acrobats (for Spirit Day).

### **Web Site Update-Gina Pryor**

District 34 is doing registration on-line this year. Information will come home on May 1<sup>st</sup> and registration must be complete by 5/16. Registration for the PTA will also be conducted on-line. After an individual finishes registering their child at Henking or Hoffman the website will guide them to the PTA Registration web-site. The registrant will provide their e-mail and contact information. The directory form is included in this process and will replace the form that usually goes out in the Fall. If any information changes or if the person does not want their information published then they need to contact the school and let them know this. Families can pay the \$12 dues through PayPal or by check.

The PTA web site registrations increased from 89 to 247. Gina needs the various chairs to keep sending her updated information. She is adding an Environmental page and if there is any information that is incorrect or incomplete please contact her.

### **TV Turn Off Week-via Shonne Ehrhardt**

Every child at Henking and Hoffman will receive a book from the PTA. On Wednesday of that week, Henking will host an evening event for students and their families.

### **Environmental "Earth Week"-via Therese Kinsley**

Earth Week is April 21-25. Hoffman will conduct Waste Free Lunches that week. For the last month information regarding the differences between a traditional lunch and a waste free lunch has gone home in the weekly newsletter. Therese is still in need of volunteers to help cheer on the kids and weigh lunches during that week. Please contact her if you can help. In addition, Hoffman will recycle gym shoes in conjunction with Nike.

### **Teacher Appreciation-Cathy Freidinger**

This year's theme is a sports theme. We have planned the following daily activities: breakfast in the lounges one morning, treats in the lounges throughout the week, the luncheons, notes to the teachers from the students (like last year's sunshine notes), among other things. Parents should be on the lookout for our letter explaining our plans for the week. There will also be a letter with "pennant notes" on which the children should write their appreciation notes to the teachers. We could use help from the Room Moms to get the children in each class to sign either a baseball (HO) or a pennant (HE) for their

classroom teacher. These volunteers (either the Room Moms or others whom they have recruited) could go into the schools the week before May 5 to get the items signed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 AM.