

Henking Hoffman PTA Meeting  
Wednesday, January 23, 2008  
Henking

Call to order at 7:05 PM

**Attendees:** Mark Walther, Rose Ibarra, Neal Siegellak, Denise Morgan, Letty Hawkes, Laura Horwitz, Angela McCune, Tammy Langas, Melissa Ignelzi, Therese O'Shea Kinsley, Gina Pryor and Margaret Wegrzyn.

The November and December Minutes were approved.

**Presidents Report: Letty Hawkes**

PTA Council Report: PTA Council is a place where PTA Presidents and Vice Presidents from the four PTA's get together with District 34 Administration and discuss any important issues pertaining to the education of our children.

-There are two important School Board meetings coming up. The first meeting is scheduled for 1/28 and the District School Calendar for 2008-09 school year will be on the agenda. In addition, the Facility Committee will present their findings and recommendations for how best to use the facilities. The student population at both Henking and Hoffman is the highest it has ever been and there is serious concern over where they are going to put all these students. On February 4 the School Board will discuss class size. Last year they reduced the class sizes for K-2 and now their looking at whether that is possible for grades 3-5. However, the Facility Committee's report will have a huge impact on whether it is possible to lower class sizes. Both of these meetings are at the District's Administration Building and will start at 7pm.

-The GEF prize patrol went out recently and awarded \$50,000 in grants to teachers and staff in the district. The Local School Council at HE/HO received a \$3500 grant to support LSC University. In October the LSC did a presentation where two Glenview Police Officers came and discussed gangs and drugs in Glenview. On February 15 there will be another evening at Henking where On-line Safety will be the main topic. Brian Engel from the district will present and free child care is available for children 3 years old and older who are toilet trained. In the spring they will host a presentation on bullying. Next year they plan to present 3 more topics of interest.

-The Skool Aid Committee (Judy Zimmerman, Stephanie Whisler and Val Spingola) came to PTA Council and presented on how HE/HO has adopted an inner city school in Chicago. They have paired up with McNair School in the Austin neighborhood. The purpose is to help provide much needed supplies and to be able to teach our children to give back. In December they held a very successful supply drive. In the next month the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders from Henking and McNair will participate in a Book Club where they will read the same book and then the children from McNair will come to Henking where they will discuss the book and do a craft related to the book. The other two clusters were very interested in this endeavor and expressed interest in adopting their own schools.

-Environmental issues were also discussed. The district is now recycling paper which is a big improvement. The milk Chugs continue to be an issue. They are expensive to recycle because they contain so much air. The ideal way to handle them would be to crush them and have them taken away. The District is looking at possibly purchasing

compactors. They don't want to return to the old milk cartons because milk consumption has dramatically increased since the switch to Chugs. The District and School Board are very interested in these issues and are motivated to help find solutions. The PTA's have agreed to take home and recycle plastic and cans from various PTA events. Each school has a big recycling can that can be used for people to discard these items and then several families will take them home and recycle them with their own garbage.

### **Treasures Report: Laura Horwitz**

Laura provided everyone with a copy of the budget and reviewed some highlighted items. She is still waiting for expenses from Hoffman Movie Night.

### **Principals Report**

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

-Happy New Year!

-Mara Pierce had a baby boy on 1/9. Mom and baby are doing well. She will return in early April from maternity leave. Carly Spina an ELL teacher is due in early March and Julie Hock is due in May. Lastly, Jill Goldfarb, the school social worker, is moving to New York and her last day is 2/15.

-International Fair is this Friday 1/25. A big thank you to Letty Hawkes, Marcy Sotirchos and Cherie DiCesare for all the work they put into this night.

-All students have participated in Winter CBM's, this is a one minute reading test that assesses fluency and is given three times a year. The children have also taken the Reading portion of the NWEA. This is done to assess each child's progress. They will also take the entire NWEA in the spring.

-ELL ACCESS testing is in progress, this is a test of listening, speaking and writing.

-Classroom Spelling Bess have begun this week. Each class will have two finalists who participate in the all school bee on Friday 2/1 at 1:00 PM and the four finalists from that bee will go on to the District Bee on Feb. 6 at Pleasant Ridge School.

-The first Teacher Collaboration day was held last Thursday, January 17 and was very productive. There are 8 more scheduled for the year and they will meet every other week. At Henking they meet one hour before school and one hour after school. At Hoffman they meet for two hours after school. The teams will meet to ensure that every child is progressing and to design and implement interventions to help students who are not progressing. The teams will work together to agree on what they are teaching and to figure out what core elements of the curriculum need to be taught and then determine ways to measure whether they are teaching these core concepts.

-To try and lessen the crowds the Orchestra held their concert on Wednesday 1/17 at Attea with the Orchestras from the other clusters.

-The Band/Coir Concert is on Wednesday 1/30 at 7:00 PM.

-The Hive is now open for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade on Tuesdays and for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade on Thursdays. The Hive is currently staffed with ELL students.

-The transition to Springman and Attea has begun. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade team met with the Principals today and on Tues. 2/12 the students will visit either Springman or Attea. Parent's Orientation at Attea and Springman is scheduled for Wednesday 2/20. On April 10 the team teachers from Springman and Attea will come to Hoffman to meet with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to discuss the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students.

-LSC met today and they are very excited about the GEF Grant for \$3500 to conduct LSC University sessions. The next session is scheduled for 2/13 and the topic is Internet Safety.

-The students will perform the Winter Program-“Once Upon A Dream” on Friday 2/15 at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM.

-Clash Day is this Friday, 1/25 and is sponsored by the Student Board.

-Group Yearbook pictures are scheduled for Friday 1/25 between 1-2:30 PM. Thank you to Gail Arrigo and Cheryl Hoker for all the work they have put into the memory Book.

-On January 29-30 there is a workshop for teachers on how to write assessments.

-The projections for next year indicate that Hoffman’s student population is increasing. Currently, there are 485 students and next year that is projected to increase to 536 students. The construction is moving along nicely. Discussions regarding class size will determine how much room is available at Hoffman.

-Parents at the next PTA meeting will be given the opportunity to take the NWEA tests to see what the experience is like for your children.

### **Neal Siegellak-Henking School**

#### 2008-09 Planning:

Grade Level	Current Enrollment	2008-09 Projection
Kindergarten	166	184
First Grade	162	200
Second Grade	184	164
<b>**Total:</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>565</b>

\*\*Total includes peripheral programs such as PreK and ELS.

Impact of projections: 4.5 kindergarten classrooms; .5 bilingual kindergarten; 9 1<sup>st</sup> grades; 1 bilingual first grade; 9 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classroom; ELL decrease from 4.8 to 4.0; all other allocations are increasing incrementally. **Two additional classrooms will be needed.**

#### Progress Monitoring:

K: letter/sound correspondence

1<sup>st</sup> Grade: CBM (reading fluency) and non-sense word fluency

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: CBM (reading fluency)

#### ACCESS Testing:

Currently taking place for students who speak more than one language; results are usually in by May

International Night: Thank you to Letty Hawkes, Marcy Sotirchos, and Cherie DiCesare

Teacher Collaboration Time: 9 days this semester beginning with January 17, 2008.

Teachers will meet in teams to develop goals, learning outcomes, assessments; student data will be evaluated to ensure success for all.

Attea Language Arts Classes to Visit: February 8, 9:30-10:30, students will share original tales written, based on folk tale literature.

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.

Pod casts/V-Casts: The first 6 weeks focus on CHARACTER COUNTS!<sub>SM</sub> New since last year—episodes feature video in addition to audio. Check out the first five episodes at [www.glenview34.org/he](http://www.glenview34.org/he)

Teachers will air the CHARACTER COUNTS!<sub>SM</sub> episodes during the week of January 21, 2008.

Do you have an idea that students could highlight in a web cast—Virtual Tour of Henking School or a program to highlight? Let us know.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Henking Hoffman Website-Gina Pryor**

The HE/HO PTA web site is up and running. Gina presented the web site and demonstrated how easy it was to navigate and use. For the most part, the information on the various pages is accurate but if you visit the site and notice a mistake please let her know. Also, if you are a Committee Chair please send her information on your event so it can be posted on the site. Please use the site to sign up to receive PTA e-mails. We discussed ways to make newsletters available on-line. Some more work needs to be done in this area but eventually it will be a reality. So go to [www.henkinghoffmanpta.org](http://www.henkinghoffmanpta.org) and check out all the great events that the PTA (you!) sponsor. Great job Gina!

#### **Environmental Update-Therese O'Shea Kinsley**

The sale of the Baby Steps bags was a great success. There are some extra bags available for sale and Therese will let us know how many she has. She has been working closely with the environmental team at Lyon/Pleasant Ridge. They have been very involved in working with the district to address garbage and recycling concerns. The next project is to schedule a Waste Free Lunch at Hoffman. Henking is having their Waste Free Lunch on February 6. Also, in conjunction with Nike, the environmental team is sponsoring a drive for old sneakers which will be recycled by Nike.

#### **Auction Benefit-Tammy Langas and Melissa Ignelzi**

Melissa, Tammy and Kathy are busy working on this year's auction, a Night at the Races. They have scaled back on solicitations from businesses. However, they have gone to a lot of effort to figure out what items are the biggest sellers and then are actively trying to get those items donated from parents. They also emphasized how important the class gifts and staff donations are in making this a successful event. Please save the date, Friday April 4<sup>th</sup>. Invitations will be in the mail soon. They could use someone to help with soliciting advertisers. This is not a difficult job and it generated over \$2,000 last year. Please call Melissa at (847) 486-9988 if you are able to help out.

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

This is the current schedule for the upcoming assemblies for Henking's Cultural Program.

- Charlotte's Web, a musical play, was on 1/10 and was well received by all.
- The hedgehog will visit the kindergarten classes on Jan. 18.
- Mother Goose visits kindergarten on March 10.
- A Child's Voice poetry workshop for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades is tentatively scheduled for 4/2.
- Chicago Voice Exchange, an a capella singing group, is coming on 5/12.
- Chicago Boyz Acrobat team is scheduled on June 6<sup>th</sup> which is also Spirit Day.

### **International Night-Letty Hawkes**

International Night is this Friday, January 25, at Hoffman school. This year the event will start a half hour earlier at 6:00. There is a wonderful Parade of Nations that will go through the school to the gym. There are a variety of groups performing in the gym and various countries are featured in the different classrooms. It is a great event for all who attend! Letty is still in need of volunteers so if you can lend a hand please call her at 486-8602.

Adjourned at 9:45 P.M.