

Henking Hoffman PTA Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2009

Henking

Called to order at 9:30 AM.

Attendees: Linda Bolotin, Angela McCune, Lindsay Barrett, Mary Patronik, Mark Walther, Neal Siegellak, Marcy Sotirchos, Laura Horwitz, Ande Wells, Letty Hawkes and Pilar Westfall.

The December Minutes were approved.

President's Report-Ande Wells

On January 14, Ande attended a meeting with the other PTA Presidents, the VP's of Membership and Brett Clark to discuss how PTA Membership/Registration should be handled this year. There were many problems last year with linking the PTA to the District's on-line registration. As a result, membership numbers for the PTA are down. The decision was made that there will be NO on-line registration for PTA Membership this year. Kindergarten Registration is on March 12 and Ande is looking at last years forms to make sure appropriate changes are made. The fees for PTA will be \$12 next year (this increase was approved in the last school year). In addition a motion was proposed and approved that you must join the PTA in order to receive a school directory. Students that receive free and reduced lunch will not have to pay for the directory but they are still encouraged to join the PTA. Currently, \$6.50 of the \$12 goes to Illinois PTA. It does not seem like we get much for belonging to the PTA. Angela will investigate the differences between a PTA and PTO and whether it is to our advantage to change to a PTO. Mark, Neal and Ande will compose and send out a letter highlighting the benefits of belonging to the PTA and will send it home with registration information. Also, the PTA will man tables at the Open Houses in the spring to encourage people to register.

An information/registration sheet is going home for the Amazing Minds Program. The classes will take place at Henking School after school for seven weeks. Class placement is on a first come basis. The forms are due by January 30.

PTA Council Report-Angela McCune

PTA Council Highlights from the January 8, 2009 meeting provided by Chris Northwick.

- **Snow Day Make up Days.** The Administration will not make a recommendation to the School Board on number of potential make-up days in June, until late spring, once the likelihood of any additional "snow" days are behind us.
- **Middle School Task Force members** presented their recently presented recommendations. Highlights included discussion on celebrations of achievement, climate, staff, program, demographics and parents at the middle schools as well as the following high priority opportunities for improvement:
 - Develop and implement the use of common, consistent district learning targets in all curricular areas;
 - Create and align common, formative assessments to those learning targets in order to help students identify what they know and what they need to

know. Use the common assessment data to help teachers differentiate instruction and challenge each student;

- Reduce the student-to-teacher ratio to provide a more personalized learning environment and support differentiated instruction;
- Communicate and consistently follow grading practices that encourage and support learning;
- Communicate and consistently follow homework practices that encourage and support learning.
- Examine the use of the school day to optimize time to meet students' academic and social/emotional needs.

More information on the findings is available to view on the [District Website](http://www.d34mstaskforce.ning.com) or www.d34mstaskforce.ning.com.

- The **next PTA Council meeting will be held on February 12 @ 9:15am** at D34 Admin Building. The discussion topic will be focused on Standardized Testing. All parents are welcome.

PTA Council meets monthly at the Administration Building (1401 Greenwood Ave.) and includes PTA leaders from each District 34 PTA, Dr. Hill, D34 Superintendent, Administrators, School Board members, representatives/liaisons from Glenview community groups, and other interested parents. The group's goal is to discuss district-wide ideas and challenges and share ideas and best practices among all D34 PTAs. The meetings are always open to interested parents.

Treasurers Report-Laura Horwitz

Laura provided a copy of the current budget and highlighted any changes. The PTA received \$3474.74 for commissions for School Photos. The Debra Gelfand Fund received a check for \$722.87, which represents the proceeds from Hoffman Movie Night.

Principals Report

Mark Walther-Hoffman School

-Happy New Year! Two school closings since we last met....anticipate that these will be added to the end of the school year. Student's last day was Tuesday June 9 and that may be changed to June 11 and the last day for Staff could be on June 12.

-Holiday Helper Pick-Up went smoothly on Wednesday, December 10. Special thanks again to Sue Haramaras, Marguerite Cole, and Cherie DiCesare for their leadership!

-Band/Choir Concert on Thursday, December 11 was a Standing Room Only event.

Location for the Spring Concert scheduled for May 6 will be Attea Middle School for safety/comfort issues.

-Event for Sammy Cipolla went extremely well on Saturday, January 10, close to \$25,000 was raised.

-Reading CBM's administered to all students last week.

-Reading/Math NWEA testing to be completed this week!

-Inauguration being viewed throughout the entire school today to expose our students to this historic event!

- 4th grade parents enjoyed visiting PE classes last week for Project Adventure.
- Awesome Reading Club (ARC) begins today! 51 students meet twice a week for reading instruction until April 30, free transportation is provided. Parent Ed meeting on February 4 from 5:30-8:00 PM.
- Family Math Night is on Monday, January 26 from 7:00-8:30 PM.
- Classroom Spelling Bees occurred last week All School Spelling Bee is on Friday January 23 at 1:00 PM in the gym. The District Spelling Bee is on Thursday January 29 at 9:45 AM at Springman.
- All District String Concert is on Thursday January 22 at 7:00 PM at Attea.
- International Fair is Friday January 23. Special thanks to Letty Hawkes and Marcy Sotirchos for their leadership!
- 5th grade to 6th grade transition process begins Wednesday January 28. The 5th grade teams/Mark meet with the principals from Springman and Attea.
- Allocations for 2009-2010:
3rd grade-8 sections; 4th grade-9 sections; 5th grade-8sections for a total of 25 sections. There is an increase in ELL staffing from 3.2 to 3.6.
- Screening for new teachers begins January 28 from 4-8 PM for Neal and Mark. There are 5 staff retirements: Linda Friedman- 3rd Grade Tree, Avi Greene-Psychologist, Sue Munro-Health Coordinator, Florence Labbe-Head Cook
- Pajama Day is Friday January 30.
- Valentines Day Celebrations are on Friday February 13 at 1:45 PM.
- 5th Grade Musical "Pirates" on Thursday February 12 there will be a 9:30 performance for Henking students and a 1:00 Dress Rehearsal for Hoffman students and on Friday 2/13 there is a 9:30 AM performance for the public.

Neal Siegellak-Henking School

Winter Program: Turnout was good on December 18. We will consider having three programs next year to reduce the congestion in the gym. The students performed beautifully and Karen Sarasin did a wonderful job of coordinating the program.

2009-10 Planning:

Projected total number of students for next year is 524, including:

PreK: 20	Early Intervention K: 18	Kindergarten: 134	Bilingual K: 30	Bilingual First Grade: 25
First Grade: 153	Bilingual Second Grade: 15	Second Grade: 167		

Student Recess Time: Midday recess is provided for first and second graders in conjunction with lunch. Students have 30 minutes to eat and 20 minutes for recess. Morning supervision is provided for students beginning at 8:40. This is not a formal recess time. The difference is that during recess students have athletic equipment to use and they may use the playground equipment. The morning lineup time is time for students to walk and talk with friends until the 8:52 lineup bell. Afternoon kindergartners have this opportunity from 12:40-1:00.

Cell Phones at School: Recently a student was using a cell phone in the hallway at Henking. Please know that Henking School will follow the procedures listed in the Henking/Hoffman Handbook regarding use of cell phones at school.

Winter Benchmark Testing: Teachers and Associates administered winter benchmark tests for students at Henking School during the first weeks of January.

Kindergarten	Letter-Sound Correspondence Number Identification Oral Counting Fluency
First Grade	Reading CBM (One-Minute Probe) Math Computation Probe
Second Grade	Reading CBM (One-Minute Probe) Math Computation Probe

The assessment data is being used to ensure that students are making appropriate progress. Differentiated instructional strategies are being utilized to provide support for students. The Title I after school tutoring program is one strategy being used to help students.

Mosaic Presentations: Artist Chris Zonta has presented information to classes about the Mosaic that students will make in the near future. The mosaic will be displayed on the wall opposite the entrance to the Library Resource Center.

Empty Bowls: Students and Ms. Wu have been busy making pottery for “Empty Bowls” Night that will be held March 19.

Local School Council University: Math Night will take place on February 9 from 6:30-8:00 for Henking families. Three 20-minute sessions will be available for parents to attend. Teachers will present activities that parents can do at home and materials will be provided to use at home.

Hedgehog Visit: . . .January 29 for kindergartners.

“Amazing Minds”: After school enrichment program will start in February. Students will have a choice of attending either Wednesdays or Thursdays for seven week sessions.

Committee Reports

Mosaic Project-Chris Zonta

Chris Zonta is the artist working with the Art teacher, Candice WU, on the Mosaic Project which began today. In the classrooms they first present the history of Mosaics to the students and show them the big picture that they are all working on. It is a large mural and all the students work collaboratively to create this mural. The children are glazing birds, moons, stars and butterflies. The work involves breaking, gluing and grouting the tiles. The mural is 3 and half feet by 14 feet. The mural represents learning, loving, and living in families and at school. It demonstrates how we are all connected

through these relationships. There is a need for more volunteers to help with this project and old towels to put between the pieces and to polish the pieces. The mural will be completed at the end of February or beginning of March and will be mounted on the wall across from the Learning Center.

Market Day-Angela McCune

Market Day has presented a program to us that we can be a part of next year. This fund raising program is similar to the Sally Foster program. In September a packet will come home with each student describing the fund raiser and a catalog of a variety of items that people can order. Students take orders and collect money, we place the orders and the orders are delivered prepacked sometime in early November. The PTA will receive 55% of all money that is raised during this fund raiser. We have not wanted to do such an event in the past but since we are moving away from having an Auction we do need to have some other way to raise money. Angela agreed to Chair this event and the PTA Board approved going ahead with this. The delivery will take place at Hoffman and all pick-ups will be at Hoffman School on the day of the delivery.

International Night-Letty Hawkes

International Night is this Friday, January 23 at Hoffman School. Letty distributed samples of the program which includes 10 cultural rooms, food, and performances by a variety of groups. and the passport. The food component is huge; Marcy Sotirchos is heading up that area. There is a need for more volunteers to help sell tickets for food.

Adjourned at 11:00 AM.