

## **WIHI PTO December Meeting**

12/08/2014

7:00 PM-8:30 PM

Media Center

**Attendees:** Kelley Bezrutch, Susan Wichhart, Tami Schumacher, Sloan Talbet, Karyn Goven, Stacey Spencer, Mira Cooper, Vikki Kasperek, Karen Zaruba, Ayesha M. Taj, Meg Wallace, Carol Knight-Drain, William Garcia

**Call to order-** Kelley Bezrutch

**Welcome/Introductions**

**Principal's Update - Mrs. Nhu Do**

**WIHI final exams** are taken before break even though the semester is over the middle of January because it is more difficult to take the exams after a 2 week break. The classroom information is fresher before the break. Also, taking the tests before break acknowledges the hard work students are doing. During the Junior and senior year, the students are taking 6 college level courses. It's important to have the holiday break to spend time with family and friends and not need to worry about exams after break. When the students return, they will be work and learning, but no tests. There are other ways to challenge learning beside pen and paper, i.e. one student did comic book in Chemistry. IB assessments will range from paper pen to multiple choice tests. The IB science exams in biology and physics are multiple choice, that's why finals can be in multiple choice.

The school day during exam week will be normal. Within the school day the exams will be mixed with study, other students will be coming to talk and share why IB was worth it and how the curriculum has helped them to thrive in college. On Friday, there will be a staff student basketball game. Tuesday through Friday there will be no more than 2 major assessments during a day.

There is a process for **student interventions**, a document was handed out. There is a Student Plan of Improvement on the WIHI website. There is a Building intervention team, students with a C- or below will be identified. The Student will meet with an intervention team member and through an itemized improvement plan, they will identify what will be most helpful to assist with their academic improvement. Mr. Nemerovski will follow up with these students.

**Graduation Plans:** A committee has been set up which includes a parent rep, a counselor, Mr. Wynn and Mrs. Do. The graduation will be at the U of M Rackham Hall, the committee will visit the venue. They will finalize the music and program. At the graduation each student will also have a few words said about them on how they fit the IB profile.

**Old Business:**

**Approval of the consent agenda-**approved  
November meeting minutes-approved  
November financial report-approved  
**Treasurer's report -** Tami Schumacher

WIHI PTO \$1038.86  
Included in the expenditures:  
Bought spirit wear  
Food for teachers  
Gift cards were given to teachers  
Awards Money-\$1142.52  
Scripts-\$234.19

Recap of the **Teachers Thankful November** Event was given by Kelley Bezrutch. The teachers were very very thankful for the gift cards and their favorite things.

### **New Business:**

**Staff holiday platters** update by Kelley Bezrutch. The signup will be sent via email for cookies, fruit, candy, also assist with assembling the platters. The platters will be assembled in the staff lounge at 9:00am.

**WIHI Spirit wear:** The PTO will front the money for spirit wear, feedback from the students is good, they like the quality of the items. New items will be coming and popular items have been ordered.

**UN Flag sponsorship** is due December 18. Mrs. Do requested they be hung in alphabetical order, the flags are made out of nylon and the colors are sewn. They are made in MI outside of Grand Rapids. Students and family can donate to the flag project, there are 193 flags with a suggested donation of \$30.

The **Engraved Brick** early bird discount has been extended to the end of December. The bricks would make a great graduation gift.

**Script gift card** orders are due December 1, the card order will be sent home with the students or parents can pick them up.

**Student Update by Stugo** rep Sloan Talbot, on Friday 12/19 there will be a student staff basketball game with a halftime show. The students can sign up through Stugo. In February there will be a **soda Crush and flower sale**. The **Buildon Charity Ball** is on January 24<sup>th</sup>, the dinner and dance will be \$25, and dinner only \$15. It will be semi-formal and all profits go to the school in Malawi. The venue for the charity ball will be at the Grange on Ann Arbor Saline Road. In February there will be a senior dinner and auction, class fundraiser and senior community service project will be painting the 800 level commons.

**Mr. Garcia report**, Junior and Senior IB exams are happening now, this includes individual oral commentaries, Juniors are doing individual oral presentations for English. **One Act Plays** were last week. Three seniors directed 3 one act plays, the show made over \$800. **FAFSA** can be submitted beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>. There is a **counselor coffee** coming up. **College acceptances** will be coming in over the next several months. The **PSAT** has been returned, the percentile rank is more important than the total score. Sophomores need to come to Mr. Garcia to get PSAT scores, Junior PSAT scores were handed out. Mr. Garcia's seniors will be filling out scholarship forms during English class.

**Brainstorming Session:** How can we make WIHI “sticky”

1. Parent ambassadors to make phone calls to current 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade families, to check in
2. Exit interviews as to why families/students left
3. Provide more transportation options
4. Clarify how students can participate in sports at their home school
5. Emails with personalized information about WIHI after the student visit
6. Advertise college acceptances
7. Stop using stock photos of students for WIHI advertisements
8. Have students be WIHI ambassadors

There is a need for clarification about siblings of Students having preferential enrollment in WIHI, what is the protocol.

**Suggestions/Topics for next PTO meeting**

Update on enrollment for next year

**Next PTO meeting- Monday, January 12, 2015 7-8:30**