

WIHI January PTO Meeting Minutes

1/12/2015

7:00 PM-8:30 PM

Media Center

Agenda Topics

Attendees: Kelley Bezrutch, Sloan Talbot, William Garcia, Susan Wichhart, Paula Drummond, Tami Schumacher, Kim Vnuk-Kronick, Nhu Do, Karyn Goven, Kyle Pellar-Kosbar, Natalia Knoblock, Mira Cooper, Jen Barba, Meg Wallace, Ayesha M. Taj, Joy Lange, Barb Askew.

Call to order- Kelley Bezrutch
Welcome/Introductions

Principal's Update - Mrs. Nhu Do

WIHI enrollment in 3 years will be very different from what it is now, the current senior class is 72, and the freshman class is 130. Currently, there are approximately 200 applicants for next year's freshmen class and we still have one more orientation evening. This year sets a record for WIHI for interest and enrollment. We are anticipating 150 freshmen next year. WIHI will never grow >600 students. WIHI is becoming more selective due to word getting out about our great school. Our admission will always be based on a lottery for each participating district and for academic standards.

Diversity half day is this Friday; teachers will talk about why diversity is important to them. There will be break out groups to discuss diversity and ways to improve our school culture so all can feel included.

WIMI career day was a great success, students were engaged and involved. WIHI career day will be February 13th. The way to expand a student's horizons is to allow students to meet professionals from a variety of areas.

***** EXCITING SCHOOL NEWS ******

WIHI has received a \$25,000 grant for technology from the James A. and Faith Knight Foundation. The focus will be on technology. The grant will buy a document camera, called ELMO. The camera allows students to see a document while the teacher is discussing it and modeling an outline on the document. This will challenge students to talk about the process. This device can help illuminate the process for students to reflect on learning and self-assessment. Also, with the grant, we will be updating the data projectors and mounting them in the classrooms. This technology will continue to promote the school's vision and mission.

There will be an IB curriculum meeting on February 4rd for sophomore parents and students. Faculty will be presenting information on their classes and the IB philosophy which consists of 2 years of college level courses including; literature, math, language, science, art, music. Students can take an additional science or language.

Hopefully, WIHI will be adding additional IB course options in the future. WIHI is looking at environmental systems and societies; it counts as an experimental and social science. The decision to add IB classes will be based on enrollment and funding.

All students will take the IB exams, the students will not learn if they pass the IB exam until July after graduation. If they pass the exams, they will earn an IB diploma in addition to the high school diploma. They have to earn 24 points across their exams to get the IB diploma; this includes CAS and enrichment hours, also internships.

Public Schools in Florida will offer 32 college credits for an IB diploma. In Michigan, Oakland College, Alma College will offer college credit for IB classes.

Old Business:

Approval of the consent agenda- Approved
December meeting minutes- Approved
December financial report- Approved

Treasurer's report - Tami Schumacher

Total PTO Cash Available: -\$1580.00

We have \$3000 in spirit wear which needs to be sold. The Flag Project cost is also outstanding; \$1600 still needs to be raised to cover the cost of the flag project.

Recap of staff holiday platters- Kim Vnuk-Kronick

We had a great turnout of volunteers, cookies, fruit and candy bags.

All staff and administration received a holiday platter, 60 were made. The staff enjoyed the platters, a big thank you to all. There were fewer cookies this year, also we ran out of cellophane to cover the platters. So we will increase cookie requests and cellophane for next year.

New Business:

Student updates-StuGo rep- Sloan Talbot

Successful Student/staff basketball game, students won.

Next StuGo event will be a Crush Soda sale for Valentine's Day. StuGo will also be selling carnations and chocolates (Friendship Package).

The Mom to Mom Sale is in March, StuGo is looking for vendors.

The Courtyard dance is in May.

The senior volunteer project is to paint the 800 wing and the conference rooms in the staff room. Seniors are looking for parent chaperones, paint supplies and paint. An estimate of paint needed is 20 gallons.

On Friday, Feb 22nd there will be an auction fundraiser for the senior trip to Saugatuck, which is scheduled for Monday April 22nd. There is a request for every senior to donate an auction item.

Juniors are having a Support-a-thon to raise money for Ozone House.

The Build On charity ball is on January 24th. The proceeds will go toward building a school in Malawi.

Staff updates- teacher rep- William Garcia

The Staff are very appreciative of the Holiday platters!

Students need to turn in all of their semester work by this Friday. The grades for the semester are due next Tuesday morning.

The grading scales are radically different from the American system and are based on the English grading system; 75% is an A. A score of 4 on an IB test is good; if you get a 4 on all tests you will get an IB diploma. Only 1% of all students worldwide get the highest score 7, on the IB exam.

School Announcements have been changed to a video format once a week. Some teachers have been forgetting to show the video; Mr. Garcia will remind teachers to remember to show the announcement video. The video will also be uploaded on a YouTube channel so parents can see the announcements. The change in format has been successful and very entertaining.

UN Flag sponsorship/installation

Flags and installation hardware have been ordered.

WIHI Spirit Wear- Kim Vnuk-Kronick

Magnets, cups and lanyards are in, please buy them.

Suggestions/Topics for next PTO meeting

Next PTO meeting- Monday, February 9, 2015, 7-8:30pm