

WIHI PTO AGENDA

11/10/2014
7:00 PM-8:30 PM
Media Center

Agenda Topics

Attendees: Kelley Bezrutch, Sloan Talbot, Kim Vnuk-Kronick, Susan Wichhart, Jaimie Hartman, Majid Taj, Vikki Kasper, Natalie Knoblock, Paula Drummond, Wendy Roberts, Tami Schumacher, Christine Pellarkosbar, Lee Repona, Karyn Goven, Stacey Spencer, Carol Knight-Drain, Annette Kretzier, Joy Lange, Barbara Askew, Khadija Peracha, Ayesha M. Taj

Call to order- Kelley Bezrutch
Welcome/Introductions-Kelley Bezrutch

Principal's Update - Mrs. Nhu Do

Thank you from the staff for the delicious lunch and dinner on conference days. The staff worked over 14 hours, 2 days in a row and they were so thankful to have these delicious meals and snacks.

There was a great turnout for conferences, a majority of students and parents came to the conferences, and it was very helpful to have students present.

WIHI is planning promotional events to promote the IB program for incoming 9th graders; teachers have been participating in open houses. WIHI mailers have been sent out to all Washtenaw county residents and to western Wayne County. Also, a promotional video is being made by Mr. Giddings; this is a Student perspective film.

The next WIHI open house is Nov 19th.

There was a professional learning day for teachers on Nov 4, the focus was on examining strategies for higher thinking, create, analyze and evaluate the learner's profile. There is a plan to create learner profile posters and place them around the school.

The teachers will create posters to focus on; reflection, create, balance, caring, open minded.

January 16th is the end of the 1st semester, if you have any questions for your student's teachers, please email or call to set up an appointment.

Manchester and Chelsea School districts have agreed to add additional student seats to WIHI.

Old Business:

Consent agenda-Approved

October meeting minutes-Approved

October financial report-Approved

Treasurer's Report - Tami Schumacher

PTO balance, \$4189.32, less \$3000.00 for spirit wear.

We now have 7 PTO clubs using the PTO account to help manage their money.

EZ free money rewards program: Thank you to all families who have participated in the scripts and grocery rewards card programs. We did not meet the grade participation level we had hoped for, but the winner is the freshman class who will get the use of the courtyard in the spring. The takeaway is we need to find another source of funding in addition to the rewards program.

STUGO-Sloan Talbot

The Gift cards for teachers are being ordered.

Game and movie night was successful.

The talent show is this Friday evening at 5:30 and is being sponsored by a product team.

Charity ball is in January, the planners are looking for a venue to have the dinner and dance. They are also looking for a venue to serve food.

There is a Counselor coffee with counselor and Mrs. Do, this Thursday at 7:30 am.

Special Guest Speaker- David Dugger- Executive Director WEOC

Topic for discussion: WIHI budget and recruitment for 2015 school year.

There are 1100 students combined in the following WECO programs; Early College Alliance, WIHI, Wave program which is a hybrid program at the Key Bank building in downtown Ypsilanti.

This is a unique state of Michigan consortium, as all employees are employed by WEOC.

Superintendents from each district participate in a meeting once a month. Dave serves as the executive director. This board represents 9 different districts. This can be a very dynamic and fluid meeting.

Dave brings transparency in his approach to WEOC; he tries to share time once a year with each PTO.

WIHI has yet to bring in a full class. Enrolling is important for the funding. The problem is the time from initial enrollment to the number that shows up when school starts. Last year, 170 students were accepted, but 120 showed up at the beginning of the year. A wait list of 200 is needed to cover the no shows. We can't make up that money. The vast majority who come to the IB program are because they have experienced it, i.e. a sibling, friend or neighbor. 2300 postcards advertising the WECO programs have been sent out; they might generate 300 open house attendees. Personal contact is very important to influence a new student's enrollment.

The average teacher costs about \$75,000, the district offsets this by larger class sizes.

Some parents think that more kids would come to WIHI if there was public transportation to the school.

Marketing is important, WIHI wasn't able to release test scores until the summer which would have been helpful to draw student interest.

Dave is optimistic that the enrollment numbers for WIHI will continue to increase.

New Business:

WIHI Spirit Wear- Kelley Bezrutch/Kim Vnuk-Kronick

Suggestions/Topics for next PTO meeting

Ideas needed on how to reach students who may be interested in WIHL.

Next PTO meeting- Monday, December 8, 2014 7-8:30

Respectfully submitted by Susan Wichhart