

WIHI PTO September Meeting Minutes

9/08/2014

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Media Center

In Attendance: Sandi Cvercku, Natalia Knolock, Marvin Gundy, Christine Pellar-Kosbar, Ferhana Mahmood, Wendy Roberts, Jing Liu, Annette, Koctzler, Becky Sigler, Yasmin Sharif, Sara Sonbani, Mia Cooper, Hillary Wooley, William Wooley, Karen Morey, Connie Hast, Cherie Dotson, Su-Ten Lin, Melissa Martin, Viki Kasperek, Nkem Khumbah, Kelley Bezrutch, Majid Taj, Sloan Talbot, Weiling Huang, William Garcia, Barb Askew, Joy Lange, Paula Drummond, Carol Knight-Drain, Karen Zaruba, Anne Louise Statt, Diana Gonzalez, Julie Li, Ayesha M. Taj, Wajida Taj, Nazima N. Taj, Stacey Spencer, Jen Barba, Tami Schumacher, Kim Vnuk-Kronick, Susan Wichhart.

Agenda Topics

Welcome/Introductions

Call to Order: Kelley Bezrutch

Board introductions: President- Kelley Bezrutch, Vice President-Kim Vnuk-Kronick, Treasurer- Tami Schumacher, Secretary- Susan Wichhart
StuGo Representatives- Sloan Talbot and Weiling Huang

Principal's Update: Mrs. Nhu Do

The PTO and parents are a partnership, a reciprocal relationship. The more successful the partnership the more successful the students will be. Feedback is important to let us know how we are doing, so feedback is welcome and essential for growth and improvement.

There are 4 Goals:

1. Instruction - It is student centered and inquiry based, it prepares students for the IB exams. The diploma program is a great achievement. It's a 3 year process and everyone is important: custodian, teachers, students, parents.
2. Curriculum
3. Assessment-authentic assessment
4. Culture- Students must feel supported and valued, feel like school is a home away from home where they feel, care, concern and support. Students need to know their teachers care.

When students feel they are supported and have opportunities to be leaders, they thrive.

Q and A- Mrs. Do:

Lockers-If a student doesn't have a locker or his/her locker doesn't work, they are to go to the office. New lockers and combinations will be distributed tomorrow to mostly seniors and some juniors.

Enrichment and CAS hours-There is confusion about enrichments and CAS hours. There needs to be better communication with parents, goals initiatives need to be made clear.

Enrichment and CAS updates will be on the second page of the next newsletter.

IB Schools History- It was started for the children of diplomats who were traveling around the world with their families; there was no standard rigorous educational program available. Leaders got together to develop a consistent program of academics. 17yrs ago, Burt developed the IB program in Birmingham, MI. We are very privileged to be apart of a free standing IB program. Mrs. Do will continue to work to establish WIHI's reputation and increase enrollment. As students graduate, they will continue to be apart of WIHI as alumni. WIHI will improve because of parent and student feedback. Please let people know about the school.

Teacher Mentorship- WIHI is introducing a mentorship program for teachers. This will include feedback on instruction, classroom environment, student growth, collegiality and professionalism.

Mr. Winn, the lead teacher and IB coordinator, will help mentor teachers. All IB staff will be trained in the IB curriculum/program.

Old Business:

Approval of the consent agenda: Approved

June 2014 meeting minutes: Approved

June 2014 financial report: Approved

Treasurer's report -Tami Schumacher

PTO Cash-\$2678.62

WIHI Club Cash-\$2320.76

Total Cash in Merit Bank-\$4999.38 balanced

New Business:

PTO mission/goals 2014/2015

The WIHI PTO's mission is to raise money to help support WIHI students and staff. Ways in which the PTO can raise money include asking families to join the PTO. Everyone is a member of the PTO, but in order to be a voting member; PTO asks that every family donates \$25.

Teacher's wish list

1. A scientific scale, the cost is \$1200. The scale would benefit all 450 students at WIHI. This is a Top priority for the school; it will help with the IB exams. The PTO

requires members to vote on any item over \$500. PTO members who were present at this meeting voted and approved the purchase of the scientific scale.

2. The teacher's wish list includes an Elmo (document camera) in every classroom. This allows papers to be projected on a screen. The cost of the Elmo is \$500 per machine; WIHI would ultimately like 24 Elmos. Part of the student IB assessment are presentations, these machines would be very helpful for the students to use for these presentations.

3 and 4. PA system and a new school sign.

Fundraising –KimVnuk-Kronick

Fundraising has benefited the following; enrichments, clubs, community gathering, spring picnic for passport Olympics, welcome back projects, food for teachers, court yard, exam snacks, teachers lounge, and library.

How do we encourage families to participate in the school script program?

Pick a couple of things which family your uses. I.e. starbucks-8%, gas card-1-4% of purchase price, grocery card-Hillers, a percentage of the purchase price will go directly to WIHI. The small percentage adds up to a significant donation to the school when all families participate.

The PTO website explains how to get signed up for script cards as well as Kroger, Busch's, Arbor Farms, Meijer and Target. Kim's family's purchases totaled \$780 last year.

Kim explained how to get cards by placing an order on the scripts website, if you have questions please contact Kim or contact the PTO.

The PTO program operates on a shoe string budget, the PTO needs to raise funds to help support the programs at the school for out students. If the PTO doesn't get more funds from scripts then we will need to find other fundraisers.

Class/Grade competition to get families to sign up for Scripts and Grocery Cards!

There is a plan to involve the students to encourage their families to join the scripts and grocery card program. There will be a grade class competition; if a class gets 60% families to participate then they get to throw a pie in class dean's face. For 80% participation, a pie can be thrown in Mrs. Do's face. For 90% participation, the class can throw a pie in the class dean's face; Mrs. Do's face and have one extra no homework weekend this year.

The class that gets the highest percentage of families to participate will have the use of the courtyard for lunch, April thru June.

New Spirit wear coordinator volunteer: Diana Gonzalez

PTO needs to organize a brick paving fundraiser.

School Events –StuGo reps- Sloan Talbot/ Weiling Huang

Weiling is the StuGo president this year.

The main goal of StuGo is to keep students connected with the faculty.

Also students have opportunity to relax and have fun.

PTO helps StuGo through donations, advertising, and running events.

The main StuGo Fundraisers are; Mom to Mom sale, International dinner, BBQ and passport Olympics, Prom.

Last year the **Mom to Mom** sale raised \$1000, it happens in April.

The **prom** will be April 25, 2014 and will be for 11th and 12 graders. The location will be Cobblestone Farms in Ann Arbor and will include dinner and a dance.

Underclassmen and the Spirit committee will help set up and decorate. There will be a DJ, a theme has not been chosen.

The **International dinner** is scheduled for Sept 19th from 6-9. It is very well attended and popular, there are foods from across the world with decoration, great food, lots of socializing and a great way for WIHI to celebrate its diverse culture. The cost is \$10 per person. If you bring a dish you get a 50% discount. The PTO is helping with advertising.

WIHI News- William Garcia

Lockers-New lockers were installed by a contract company, old lockers were fixed and if current ones break the company will fix them.

Parking- There is currently enough parking; most are students are parking in # spots on the west side of the building. Mrs. Do and staff are working hard to make parking smoother and safer. There is a plan to install a sign to help with the parking process. It is important to remember, drop off should be Safe, secure and speedy. Parents, please have students exit the car safely. Always pull all the way up to end of side walk.

There is some thought into placing gravel on part of the grass for overflow parking.

New this year is teachers as class deans- Young 9th grade, Morgan 10th grade, Garcia 11th grade, Mark 12th grade. These teachers will be a good resource and point person for parents and students. The class deans are requesting 2 parents from each grade to help support them.

Wednesday, September 10th is **College Night** for juniors. There will be college counselors from U of M, Kalamazoo College and Case Western to talk about the admission process.

PSAT- October 15th, 8:00am, \$20. Juniors can take the PSAT which is connected to national merit scholarships.

New Enrichment Coordinator-Ms. Purcells

Suggestions/Topics for next PTO meeting

Emergency Plan

CAS

Website functioning

Communication between school and families

Next PTO meeting

Monday,

October 6, 2014 7-8:30

Respectfully submitted by Susan Wichhart