

McKenzie PTA
Executive Board Meeting Minutes-Final

March 1st, 2016 – 9:15-11:30am
Purple Conference Room

Attendees:

Dr. Denise Welter-Principal
Rebecca Lieber – President
Christi Harrison – President Elect
Sarah Fox – Treasurer
Kristin Bowie-Fundraising
Amy Gelwix-VP, Community Building
Chris Peterson – Secretary
Amanda Doblin – VP, Room Parents
Robyn Schaefer-VP, Enrichment
Emily Spectre – Parliamentarian
Elizabeth Jensen- Treasurer Elect
Tami Teppo- Enrichment Assistant
Colleen Shinnars- Communications Assistant
Dori Boneck-Fundraising Assistant
Janet Langdon-Webmaster

- I. Welcome – Rebecca Lieber
 - Meeting called to order at 9:23am
 - Approval of February Exec Board Meeting Minutes-Motion was made to approve the February Executive Board Minutes. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

- II. Nominating Report – Christi Harrison, Committee Member
 - Most of the Executive Slate has been filled. Still seeking a President Elect and Treasurer Elect. A candidate is interested in the Treasurer Elect position and will have a conversation with Elizabeth this week. Committee has gone through the list of nominations once and needs to revisit it. All other positions have been filled! Hoping to vote on the slate at the May General Board Meeting.
 - Discussed other ways on how to recruit a President Elect and the different venues. It was mentioned to explore the dads within the community as well.
 - The question was asked if McKenzie could have two Co-Presidents, like Highcrest and Wilmette Junior High. This route was not as desired and the focus will remain on finding one President at this time.

- III. Program Reports and Follow Up/Next Steps

President – Rebecca Lieber

- Destination Imagination (DI)-A recap was given of Emily Paris' plea from last month. She wanted the physical school space to run the program after

school and wanted the PTA's support. A discussion and vote followed with the following highlights:

- Romona has agreed to sponsor the DI program there.
- DI does match up with the characteristics of successful learning and is a great addition to that curriculum.
- It was suggested that it could take away volunteers from other needed events that the PTA has struggled to fill. Dr. Welter suggested it attracts a different kind of parent and may or may not impact the volunteer base from the other PTA committees. The leader role for DI is equated to more of a girl scout leader.
- Sarah brought up the plea for teacher involvement and whether or not they would need the PTA support to get teachers interested in being "Appraisers".
- Kristin asked if the group felt comfortable with Emily's plea for the space at the school. Dr. Welter answered that since the Park District has dibs on the classrooms, she would have to ask a teacher to give up their classroom immediately after school let out. The coach would be responsible for making sure the classroom was left as they found it and hauling materials back and forth from school. When PTA sponsored ATC it was a very set schedule on days of the week using the auditorium. It was stated that Girls on the Run had to scramble to find an after school space just this Spring.
- Currently there are 8 DI teams from McKenzie, 4 of them competed this weekend.
- Sarah asked if we inquired with the Foundation. Because DI does not need money, they do not need to go through the Foundation, who did not seem interested anyway.
- Emily Spectre asked if she could present this at the Village Wide PTA meeting next week. We do not want to squash the excitement of the program in the community. It seems a lot of people are talking about it.
- Can the PTA be partial supporters of the program? We can provide the space or the communication. Should not involve financials or money.
- **VOTE:** The McKenzie PTA will support DI in the following ways: It will facilitate communications via the Monitor and Website to the community and will sign off on the building contract to use a classroom after school. There will not be a PTA committee chair role nor will the PTA be involved financially. The motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Treasurer – Sarah Fox

- Monthly Financial Report-Being the 1st of the month, the financial statements are not available. Big receipts include \$21,900 for Variety Show tickets and \$315 for Movie Fun Night.

- Disbursements: iGNITE bus fees, birthday books, teacher stipends. Sarah reminded the group that the teacher stipend deadline is April 30th.
- Dr. Welter asked if a teacher does not need her stipend this year, can the teacher gift it to another teacher? Sarah explained it is not written in the policy that way and until the policy is re-written with those terms, the teacher can pay for another's materials with their own.

President-Elect – Christi Harrison

- Chair Recruitment 2016-17-Going well, there are still a few spots available.
- Debrief forms-Going to reach out to those chair-people whose activities are final...find out if they would like to continue next year and remind them to complete their debrief form.

Treasurer-Elect – Elizabeth Jensen

- Budget committee-Rebecca, Christi, Sarah, Elizabeth, Dori, Kristin, Robyn, Tami, Slated President Elect and Slated Treasurer Elect

Enrichment – Robyn Schaefer/Tami Teppo

- Enrichment Update
 - K-Mad Science on Water and Then & Now
 - 1st grade-Meteorologist, Ed Curran from CBS, will visit and present on their Weather unit
 - 2nd grade-Mad Science on Sound and Light
 - 3rd grade-Astrophysicist came and had a very engaging presentation. Timeline of life vs. space. Followed with a classroom question and answer with each of the classrooms; which was kid driven. He was very personable. The students really enjoyed meeting him and wanted his email address. Monica Thompson is also interested in coming in and talking about her experience with NASA. Could be a nice way to have a female representative in science. 3rd graders also had a Historical perspectives presentation about Sally Ride.
 - Green Committee Enrichment ideas-came to Enrichment meeting to discuss how they can be part of Enrichment ideas. Dr. Welter mentioned that sustainability is a big initiative for the District and they would like to involve more of it in the classroom and via Enrichment. Robyn provided the curriculum maps and asked the Green Committee to look at that and see where they can help enrich this.
 - Practicing a district wide approach to finding new programs
 - Special Services team doesn't have any enrichment ideas for the year and is wondering if they can use the budget for other materials, like software. Dr. Welter mentioned that this would fall under a Pencils and Gluesticks Grant. Look at it on a case by case basis.
- Evening Event update-Would like to kick off the idea of an evening event with a very successful one. First day coffee could be a venue to do this. Central school had an event recently and they seem to be very popular.

- Civics and Safety-During the last Village wide meeting, there was a discussion surrounding how the traffic at McKenzie has fallen apart. Nobody is controlling the traffic at the corner of Prairie and Washington and the street is being blocked during pick-up and drop-off. Officer Parisi had some ideas for us. Can we find out license plate numbers? Highcrest has a link on the website to report traffic offenders. Can we hand out yellow cards reinforcing the rules? There was a discussion on what is going right and what is going wrong during drop off and pickup.

Fundraising – Kristen Bowie/Dori Boneck

- Mid-year report-iGNITE fell just short of the goal by about \$1,000, but confident we can reach the goal by year end. Kristin asked what will happen with any rollover money. Do we place that into the Learning Commons fund? Sarah said that it can either be rolled over or earmarked as a specific item as Learning Commons.
- Variety Show-Tech week has begun. Tickets are on sale. Budget is tracking above the revenue forecast based on the increase of ticket prices. Sound Board was \$800 and Director and Producer are very grateful that this was passed through.
- Parent Party, May 14th-Planning is in full swing. The fundraising goal for the event will be \$10,000. Fundraising pieces include Sign Up parties and teacher donations. If we continue to have this fundraiser, then we should push it back a little earlier to April, for the case of the sign up parties. Claire Hoppenworth is leading the fundraising piece. Lots of sign up parties that are locked in. Ticket price about \$60-\$65 per person. Working on a logo for the event. Sign Up parties will be available prior to the event for those who cannot attend.
- Movie Fun Night-Raised over \$300 and was very well attended

Community Building – Amy Gelwix

- Power Up to Play – Fun Run-May 13th after school. Need volunteers. Do we want the funds to go to Carmen Buckner this year? It was agreed that yes, the proceeds will go to Carmen Buckner.
- Fourth Grade Farewell-Volunteer for video montage may or may not be filled.

Webmaster– Janet Langdon

- Did two new logos for 4th Grade Farewell and PASS 39
- Rebecca asked for Traffic Guidelines to be moved to the top of the website and move iGNITE down.

Principal's Report – Denise Welter

- Learning Commons update
- Parent Input Form email will go out on Friday and due back April 1st.
- Institute Day on March 15th. Teachers will be trained on the new writing curriculum. A gradual release of materials for the program will take place in Spring and then the full roll out in Fall. 9 of the teachers at McKenzie

are piloting the reading curriculum that will be rolled out by the district next year. English Language Arts curriculum has not been redone in 15 years.

- Be flexible on teacher allocations as there will be movement between grades.

IV. Conclusion/Next Steps

- No March General Board Meeting
- Exec Board Meeting, April 5, 9:15-11:15am, Purple Conference Room
- April General Board Meeting, April 12, 9:15am, Cafeteria (Highcrest Presentation)