Winnetka District 36 Central PTO

Minutes - September 8, 2017

Present for the meeting: Jenny Herb, Cynthia Werts, Steve Cirules, Maxie Clarke, Nidhi Singh,

Sarah Alshouse, Kelly Bachman, Shawna Radzik, Trisha Kocanda and Laura Kastelic

**Welcome/Introductions: Jenny Herb**

* Objective of Central PTO is to communicate/share ideas between individual PTO’s and to convey information back to our school/PTO regarding the district.
* Central PTO gives financial contributions to 4 organizations: Erika’s Lighthouse, Haven, FAN (Family Action Network), and Alliance for Early Childhood.
* Meetings will take place10/6, 11/3, 12/1, 1/12, 2/2, 3/2, 4/6, 5/4 and 6/1.

**VP Communications Report: Cynthia Werts**

* Cynthia will manage the Central PTO website.

**Winnetka School Board: Steve Cirules** -

* Steve reported that Kindgergarten changes are going even better than even expected. .
* Winnetka School Board is focused on Future Ready D36 master plan to look at the facilities in the district and where they could be improved.
* We should have updates on Future Ready36 at each meeting with the architect.

**Crow Island Report: Maxie Clarke, Crow Island PTO President**

* The Crow Island Run-a-Thon will support Miseracordia this year.
* Winnetka Park District ice arena is considering a new program - Skate and Support. Details to come.
* Directory Spot will be available soon. We are working to make Directory Spot coded to differentiate names in directory. All elementary schools will be included in the new directory. Costs will be split between the schools.

**Hubbard Woods Report: Nidhi Singh, Hubbard Woods PTO President**

* We had a good start with lots of new kindergarteners.
* Had all school open-house. It was nice to have everyone together.
* Theme for Hubbard Woods this year is Heart of the Neighborhood. We are encouraging families to invite an adult neighbor to school. The goal is to bring the community together to support the school.

**Greeley Report: Shawna Radzik, Greeley PTO President**

* We had a great start.
* New principal - Joshua Swanner has been amazing.
* Had ribbon cutting for new kindergarten playground. Had tours of the school at same time as kindergarten ribbon cutting.
* New family party was a great success.
* Will have Red Panda Day 9/14 to celebrate the new mascot that was elected last year.
* Go To School night is coming up on 9/14.

**Skokie-Washburne Report - Sarah Alshouse and Kelly Bachman, PTO Co-Chairs**

* Go To School night for Skokie was September 6. Washburne’s Go To School nighty was September 7. We received positive feedback from parents.
* School kickoffs included an ice cream social and social dance begins tonight.
* The Skokie/Washburne parent party will take place on October 13 at Skokie Country Club.
* 5th Grade welcome party is next week.
* Ribbon cutting for new cafeteria at Washburne is coming up soon.

**Superintendent Report: Trisha Kocanda**

* Reminded PTO Central committee that she is here to support their efforts.
* Rotating School Board reps will come to the Central PTO meetings. Steve Cirulus is in attendance today.
* New administration includes:

Pat Krutzman, Administrative Coordinator

Michelle Woodring, Assistant Principal

Brad Goldstein, CFO

* Enrollment for kindergarten is at 158 students.
* Enrollment is down overall by 2% and staffing is in-line with that.
* Full day kindergarten is going well. Some logistics have been challenging. We are working with the bus company to make sure bus routes run smoothly.
* Reaching All Learners initiative
  + We are investing in math interventionists for youngest students at all three elementary schools. We will be training associates to help with specific interventions.
  + Have new data management program to measure how interventions are working.
  + Kids most invested in their education when it is inquiry based.
  + We are working with staff to support kids that need to be challenged.
  + Maker Space - Students can earn badges as they reach challenges within the curriculum.
* Map assessment will take place in the fall, winter and spring. Reports will be sent prior to conferences. PARCC results will be sent around September 20.
* The districts goal is to enhance home and school partnership by students using Wordly Wise and ST Math.
* Future Ready D36 -
  + This initiative evolved from the enrollment balancing study. It became apparent that aging facilities need to be addressed. We will look at enrollment, facilities and goals for district. Facility analysis is the first step.
  + Information on each individual school will be available online.
  + A core team will come up with recommendations.
  + The district is looking for volunteers to represent the community. Three committee members that have children in district and another three without kids currently in D36.
  + Goal is to have recommendations at end of year. Future Ready 36 will be communicated to all community members today and postcards will be sent this week.

**Next Meeting:**

October 8 at Washburne School.