**Central PTO Meeting Minutes-- 9/7/18**

In attendance: Tracy Winslow, Bridget Orsic, Nicole Rivera, Kendra Drozd, Kirby Doonan, Gina Gooden, Emilee Wolfe, Kendal Reis, Nat Roberts, and Tricia Kocanda

Tracy—Welcomed everyone and gave an overview of the function of Central PTO

Nicole—Donation option to PTO was missed on registration for about 600 families.

Last year we collected $15,000, this year collected $9612. Total expenses are $10,000 for

insurance and auditor. We will have $2,000 of excess funds to distribute this year as donations versus $7,000 last year.

We discussed how to potentially capture the missed 600 families. Options raised were doing a charitable campaign at the end of the year highlighting the charities to which we would donate and see if families would want to contribute.

Gina felt that it would be easy for each separate PTO to write a blurb about what Central PTO does and see if we can get additional checks. Ultimately the members of Central PTO felt that we should leave the donations as they stand. Per the by-laws, Central PTO is not a fundraising entity—we can communicate this year to the various entities that we have donated to in the past that the amount this year will be lower. Perhaps going forward our annual suggested “ask” can be lower.

It was also brought up that it might be helpful to outline what Central PTO verses individual PTOs versus WPSF does —especially for new families.

Other issues that arose: We found that school photo contracts were not consistent between schools and the school lunch program has different logins for each school—does Central PTO have the bandwidth to tackle these?

Nicole has the new insurance policy for each school and handed them out. She will also be contacting school treasurers about the books from last year.

The Directory Spot App was discussed and a motion was made to merge the schools’ directory spots and approved.

Bridget (Skokie)—Skokie/Washburne families this year received an email receipt if they paid PTO dues. We discussed getting this feature for the other schools as well. They are having trouble getting room parents. It was shared that Greeley and Crow Island’s system of using the Sign Up Genius was very helpful.

Kirby (Crow)— A Sign Up Genius was sent 6 days after class lists were set to get room parents.

They welcomed first graders, had a popsicle event and a room parent coffee. It was a smooth transition.

As parents are accessing it, they are finding some issues with directory spot—Tricia will touch base with tech person and connect with Kim Ronan.

Gina (Greeley)—It has been a smooth transition back to school. They have had parent coffees, and are prepping for go to school night.

Kendal (HW) HW donations are in a good spot. It has been a smooth back to school!

 Oct 3rd HW orientation night, Parent Party Oct 26th at Skokie

They made an attempt to reduce fundraising by reducing cost of lunches, school supplies, and not doing Pizza Fun Lunch (Dominoes ordered in 16 Fridays and families prepay in advance).

Nathanial—School Board worked through contract extensions with teachers. A phone poll related to future ready has been approved to pick up more sampling—parents will represent 30-40 percent of respondents.

Tricia—Thanked the PTO. She wanted us to know she is accessible to us.

Enrollment is 1,612 (K-8) and demographer predicted 1,612! Last year 1,634. 17 new teachers—with 2 year mentoring program. 2 new administrators

On opening day for staff the theme was inspire—do something amazing!

Future Ready—There was a Board meeting on 21st. They recalibrated and went through a timeline. Tricia reiterated the reasons for WHY.

1.We are always striving to advance our teaching and learning

2.What is the cost of doing nothing? 127 million status quo for 30 yrs

3.Consolidated—cost is 63 million

4.K-4, 5-8 Modernize—cost is 160 million

Board will approve master plan at October Board Meeting—the 10 year vision, then decide what to do first. That is the referendum question.

Winnetka and NSSED will present at a national conference on special ed work

National Learning space conference will tour Crow Island in November

Friday Oct 5th Next Meeting