**PTO Executive Committee Board Meeting**

November 1, 2017

In Attendance: Julie Oleshansky, Nidhi Singh, Beth Carmody, Lauren Leboyer, Abby Burtelow, Dana Bulan, Flannery Buchanan, Kate Kligora, Kendal Reis

1. Welcome— Nidhi Singh
2. Approval of Minutes—Julie Oleshansky
	1. Changes: $7,387 was spent from Ways & Means towards teachers, note this in the minutes
		1. Motion to approve: Nidhi Singh
		2. Second: Kate Kligora
3. President’s Report – Nidhi Singh
	1. Changes will be made to the HW website to make it more user- friendly. Central PTO is also looking to do this as well, so we may look into a central web hoster.
	2. Mayfest: We’re not reading the 100+ raffle items this year - in an effort to keep things simple. More focus on the teacher raffle items, donations, etc.
	3. Gary Wendt has the composer in residence squared away for the beginning of the year (grades 3-4). Each grade will compose 1 original piece.
		1. Spring sing will not have the large dance like last year
	4. Candy collection is occurring, Lauren will add a reminder to The Item for this week. (along with Grand receipt reminder)
	5. Friday Luncheon has a great turnout (99 RSVP’d so far).
	6. Book Fair: Nidhi will send out a reminder – the book fair is Nov. 15th & 16th (Rachel Kozina and Carrie Waterston are the chairs).
		1. Teacher wish lists for the book fair are greatly appreciated. Teachers love this and are very grateful for it. Chairs ask the teachers for their lists.
		2. Discussion about letting parents know what the funds are going towards (not just the resource center, but what specifically in the resource center)
		3. A&M Show had 7 tickets purchased, 30% of price goes towards HW.
4. Principal’s Report—Beth Carmody
	1. Ways & Means: All is being processed and coming along well
	2. New street sign on the corner of Burr & Chatfield about the traffic pattern.
		1. Police are asking input for a proposed playground sign that will restrict hours and hopefully enforce any loitering after dusk.
	3. WGST has some changes coming up. Jen Colito & Jude are working with Gary Wendt. Thinking about using seesaw to share WGST instead of youtube.
		1. Thinking about making it more student driven – is there a class at NT that needs internship hours or can help the HW students?
5. Dana Bulan
	1. Teachers are very thankful for all the parents help with Halloween since it’s such a crazy time.
	2. Great change with the parade, the teachers love it.
	3. Butterfly release went well.
	4. 4th graders deep into STEAM right now. This year the project is around the industrial revolution. Kids are making goop, scented candles, etc.
		1. Next steam project they are going to write their own opera. They’re going to go see Opera in the Neighborhood and get a backstage tour. We can connect this to curriculum which is great.
		2. Since we have K at HW our related arts teachers are full time at HW. This is a wonderful asset to our school being able to have them full time. Mrs. Wendt & Jude are able to add this very special progressive piece to our school.
	5. Great enthusiasm with all the new teachers at HW
	6. Math program for 4th grade has been wonderful and is working well.
6. School Board Meeting Update: Kendal Reis
	1. WPI (Winnetka Parent Institute) is trying to increase amount of courses. Dr. Ryan speaking next week on Thursday at 9:30 at Skokie on progressive education.
	2. Observations of Kindergarten went well and parents were very positive and pleased. They will survey parents to get their feedback on their experience.
	3. Registration is Dec. 1st at Washburne. In March people will know placements.
	4. Tax Increment Financing will be discussed further.
	5. K-2 Intervention is still a big focus for the district (Early Intervention).
	6. Future Ready was a big focus at the meeting. Looking at how all the buildings work together as a unit, and what do careers look like for the future. Spread the word to friends to engage and go to the meetings
	7. Test scores were discussed regarding the PARC and the MAP
	8. Surveying students 2nd semester on their experience for feedback
7. Treasurer’s Report – Kate Kligora & Abby Burtelow
	1. The drop off area in the front of HW may be extended (the easement made larger) for more cars to pull in and drop off students. This is being discussed.
	2. Discussion about using the beautification fund to plan bulbs before the winter.
8. Vice President’s Report – Kendal Reis
	1. Send out a reminder in The Item about Grand receipts and when they are due
	2. Parent parties have been going great and there’s been positive feedback.
9. Communications Report – Lauren Leboyer & Flannery Buchanan
	1. The Item on Sunday will thank parents that have been helping this month; World Travelers chairs, Halloween helpers, luncheon chairs and room parents.
		1. Focus will also be in the book fair which is happening November 15th and 16th. Siblings are allowed at this event and teachers will receive wish lists.
10. Discussion Items

*Meeting Adjourned: 11:05am*