

## **Oak PTO General Meeting Minutes October 18, 2017**

**Attendance:** Grace Shin, Nicki Hutter, Amy Cannan, Jennifer Rediger, Janice D'Arco, Kirsten Douglass, Katie Storino, Holly Wanless, Malissa Empano, Tracy Zoberis, Anna Fiascone, Monica Sodikoff, Jamie Muehlhauser, Erin Catton, Nicole Perdomo-Rosenbaum, Aleisa Woodward, Christina Mcgrath, Natalie Frierott, Jen Riordan, Sonja Gill, Celina Kawa, Stephanie Brzozowski, Christina Dimitropoulos, Katie Szafarczyk, Kathleen Florence, Holly D., Dr. Henrikson

### **7-7:30pm: Update of Flexible Furniture:**

- Mrs. Pastiak and Mrs. Woodward present information on changes in classrooms pertaining to flexible furniture for grades 1-5
- Why break from the norm of sitting in conventional desks in Grades 3-5?
  - Not all students learn equally in fixed environments
  - Movement breaks proven beneficial to children and extra space increases collaboration b/t staff, teachers, etc....
  - Few changes needed in classrooms to accommodate flexible furniture: kids now share community caddy, social contract, modeling, organization, and best learning environment practices
- Results of flexible furniture thus far:
  - Longer stamina
  - Pencil population is thriving
  - Children become advocates of their own learning
  - Students care about furniture
- Mrs. Woodward speaks to 1st & 2nd grade classrooms....teaching organization and mostly traditional set up but being exposed to different seating, carpets, balls, etc.....
- Idea is to start early so children can advocate for themselves when in upper grades

### **9th & County Line Concerns: Sgt. Wodka:**

- Crossing guard already present as well as in street sign (many factors taken into account regarding traffic patterns as to what the Village will supply regarding safety measures)
- Oak parents would like to place a digital speed sign at intersection
- Village does not purchase signs for schools, PTO would be responsible for doing so
- Signs have proven track record of reducing speeds in areas where placed
- Suggested that we could get a stop sign and/or speed bumps along County Line both of which are federal guided with rules/requirements etc....
- Deb suggested four way flashing light
- Village trustee makes decisions re flashing lights, digital signs etc...
- Speed studies currently being conducted around Hinsdale

### **Executive Reports: Update from Presidents' Meeting and Academic Success Meeting:**

- District will table enrollment issues and focus on facilities instead
- D86: You can receive texts from district...please see info on Hootiegram on how to do this in D181
- 5th grade accelerated programs being revised (Bridge programs may be changed too)

- Blah Buster & Remind Summaries: DJ, Magician, & photo booth already booked
- Jen Rediger needs volunteers for ticket sales, decorating, games, etc....
- Blah Buster date: January 26th 6-8pm
- REMIND Text message system being used now at OAK
- Don't forget to like us on Facebook

#### **Treasury Report:**

- They're on your desks. Stay on budget....don't over spend!

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### **Assemblies:**

- November 13th: Topic is bullying....speaker is Jeff Veelie.....two presentations, one for parents and the other for students
- Other ideas....Bring back BMX guy....

##### **BookFair:**

- Begins Oct 31-Nov 2
- Set up is Monday and take down Friday
- SUG will go out Sunday with Hootiegram
- If kids bring in pumpkins decorated as their favorite thing on Halloween day there will be a winner per grade who receives a prize

##### **Fall Fundraiser:**

- Charleston Wrap Fundraiser: numbers are IN: Raised over \$6692
- Orders come in to Oak on Nov 7th if shipped to school so can be picked up next day during school and after hours

##### **Family Connections:**

- Daughters Dance: Friday Nov 10th 6-8pm
- Buy your tickets (31 sold already)

##### **Holiday Market:**

- Dec 14 3:05-6:30pm
- Survey Monkey will be distributed inquiring into how many people in family will actually participate (event to be named 1st annual holiday market)
- Committee will do the shopping

##### **Lunch In:**

- Out of 163 families...149 participate in the program
- 27 people changed orders when given opportunity last month
- Please let volunteers know if child didn't get what they ordered

##### **Oak Grows:**

- Project 365 Gratitude Journals and Gratitude Boxes will be rolled out in November in accordance with Thanksgiving/Holiday Season
- Children can take journals home; they are theirs to keep
- Boxes will be placed in each classroom as daily reminder of kindness and feeling grateful
- Suggestion: Announce thoughts of kindness and gratitude on K-5 Live

##### **Parent Fundraiser:**

- April 27th at HGC
- SUG created for volunteers
- Raising money for PTO expenditures
- Should we say we're raising money for STEAM?

**STEAM:**

- Holly presented 3 options
- Can do like Madison....hire company Creative Learning
- Can roll out our own program etc....
- Can do a combo of our own implementation coupled with Creative Learning
- Lab proposal and wish list will be ready Dec 1....stay tuned for more details and big thanks to Holly for researching all of these possibilities