

**Central School PTO Meeting
October 11, 2013**

Call to Order 8:45 a.m. in the Central School Conference Room.

Minutes September 13, 2013 minutes were approved.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Sharma-Lewis presented a District 96 Education Overview on the ISAT scores. The scores that are about to be released to D96 parents next week have dipped because the state has raised expectations with regards to aligning with the Common Core. 82.8% of Central students are found to be meeting or exceeding expectations in reading and 82.7% for math. The district declined about 15% overall in reading and math and the state average has declined by 22%.

We will receive a newly updated IL State Board of Education report card on school achievement. It has been condensed and the data provided will be easier to read. A Common Core Alignment Team has been created in D96 to align the curriculum that we have with the standards and to look for any existing gaps so that those can be addressed.

Teacher Representative

Mrs. Lutz shared that all parents will be invited to sign up electronically for a Parent-Teacher Conference that will take place on November 25. Report cards will be sent home on November 22. Teachers are working on getting guided reading groups up and running. CoGAT tests will take place next week for 2nd-5th grader students.

Principal's Report

Mr. Gatz reported that Central made adequate yearly progress in reading but not in math this year on the ISAT. AYP is the percentage of students who meet or exceed standards on the ISAT test. To address the math gap, all teachers will have their math instruction reviewed. All students will be divided into small groups based on their identified needs from the MAP test scores. Every Central student will receive an additional 60 minutes of instruction a week (20 minutes, 3x/week) with these smaller math groups. The children will be moved regularly between groups as they progress in their learning. Mr. Gatz hopes to have these groups started no later than November 2013.

He reported that the Science Alliance school assembly was very well received by both the staff and students. The district website is going to receive a complete overhaul to make it more user friendly.

Officers Reports

Co-Presidents' Report

Food Allergies We were reminded that all classes and events (Halloween etc) are to be nut free due to the large number of student allergies. In addition, if you are ever going

to bring food into school for an event such as Flying Carpet, it must be cleared by Mr. Gatz and the school nurse well in advance. We discussed that the Flying Carpet Club application should be updated to reflect that parents might be bringing in food to enhance the experience and ask them to fill out any known allergies on the application.

Halloween Village Event You have until Wednesday of next week to submit your application to paint a Halloween themed picture for a local business window. Applications are to be submitted to our PTO mailbox and this event is being run by Hollywood this year.

2013-14 Directory Timing is almost ready. We received the data from the district last week. The Central directory will be tested this weekend and we anticipate that Mr. Gatz will send out the password to parents next week so that they can gain access.

1st VPs' Report

Nothing to report.

2nd VP's Report

Fundraisers 100% Fund collection to date is \$4815 which is over our budgeted estimate. Innisbrook numbers are still being finalized but it appears that we sold \$100 more than last year and this fundraiser is also over our budgeted estimate. Original Works fundraiser is currently on and will end on 10/28.

3rd VPs Report

Calendars They were sent home in backpacks about two weeks ago. If you want to purchase one, they are for sale in the office for \$5.

Treasurer's Report

2012-13 Budget Revision The Yearbook Committee went over the budget by \$800 due to some unexpected changes including a much longer yearbook and having a bleed included in the design. Angela asked that we increase the budget by \$800 to cover that cost. **Motion: A motion was made by Amy Hill to increase last year's Yearbook budget by \$800 to cover the cost of the printing. Paula Fudacz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Parliamentarian Report:

Amendment to Bylaw A proposed bylaw amendment was presented at the September meeting that would allow for reimbursement for members who incur expenses related to events held in May after the last PTO meeting or in September before the first meeting of the year that require an increased budget/reimbursement. The amendment will be voted on at the November meeting, as the Parliamentarian was not able to make the October one.

Committee Reports

Family Fun Night: It was a huge success and we came close to breaking even on the event.

Flying Carpet Club: Aberdeen is recruiting volunteers now for this 1st-5th grade program as the number of kids who can enroll is dependent upon the number of parent volunteers.

Grants: Jennie discussed applying for a grant with Riverside Township to enhance the upcoming Multicultural Fair in the spring.

Halloween Play: Dawn Gmitro is seeking parents to participate in the upcoming play. Rehearsals will take place on Tuesday mornings for the next few weeks.

Hike & Bike Week: Each Central student received a free water bottle courtesy of Burlington Realty in honor of this annual event. We are not sure how many students participated.

Original Works: Paperwork was provided to teachers this week to send home in backpacks for this fundraiser.

Library: Lead room parents should have sent out electronic sign up forms for parents to volunteer to help out in the Central library.

Science Fair: The first mentoring session this week was a big success with 5 parent scientist volunteers helping out close to 20 Central students. We will have a second mentoring session on Tuesday, 10/15. The Science Fair will take place on Weds. 11/13. A Central family is making an anonymous donation to cover the cost of a display board for every student or student pair that enters the fair.

Spirit Wear: The order has been placed with the vendor.

Yearbook: 35 fifth graders are on the yearbook staff. This number is up significantly from last year.

Other Announcements

Upcoming events:

October 23-Teacher Institute Day

October 31-Halloween Play, Parade & Party, 1pm

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Amy Jacksic, Secretary.