

Meeting was called to order by Karen Castelli @ 7:08m

Members in attendance: PTO Board: Karen Castelli (President), Jen Savoy (Treasurer), Jen Voegtli (Secretary); Eric Larson (Principal, IS), Dolores Bates (Principal, MS), Michele Ouellette, Daenya Baldyga, Lisa Carlson, Jill Paglino

Members virtual: Julie Peryga, BJ Noonan

Guest Speaker:

Jill Paglino from Guilford Youth and Family presented on an upcoming Girls Leadership Conference, occurring April 2nd, at the Guilford Community Center. This event has been going on since 2014, although they did not have it last year due to covid. The conference runs from 10am-2:30pm and will host 75 girls in grades 5th through 8th. There are currently 11 spots open to girls from HK. Girls in High School who have previously been through the program previously and exhibit leadership skills choose and run the programs at the conference. Register at Eventbrite.com by searching for "Girls Leadership Conference". The cost of the conference is \$25 plus service charge. Scholarships are available.

Secretary's Report: (Jen Voegtli)

February minutes were reviewed. Jen Savoy made a motion to approve. Lisa Carlson seconded. Minutes passed, with the following changes: Change Craft Fair to 34 years (from 33). Change Michelle to Michele.

President's report (Karen Castelli):

-We need people to take over leadership of the Craft Fair. Emails and Facebook posts have gone out about what is involved for the event. We will have tables at the Parent/Teacher Conferences next week to recruit parent volunteers for this event, as well as other open Chair/Board positions for next year.

-The kids loved the February Hot Chocolate Day. The cafeteria staff was great in helping set it up.

The Memorial Day/Veteran's Day assembly is planned for Friday 5/27. There will be a flag ceremony with the disabled vets. We are trying to get Quilts of Valor to come as well.

-The crafters from the Craft Show had some donated items that were not picked up. These items were raffled off to the staff. The principals would like more ideas for the staff, such as motivational signs, games, self-care week.

Treasurer's Report (Jen Savoy):

-Our income last month was \$120 from box tops and \$243 from Pfizer for the Color Run.

-Our expenses last month included \$200 for the holiday cookies for the MS.

-We currently have \$44,687 in the bank.

HKMS Principal's Report (Dolores Bates):

-Winter sports have wrapped up and spring club registration is now open. Spring sports will be starting soon, with registration opening in the next week. Buses are still a challenge this year for sporting events.

-Parent/Teacher Conferences are Monday and Tuesday, 3/7 and 3/8. Sign up for the conferences went out via email. The conferences will be in person or virtual. Covid test kits will be distributed to parents during the conferences. If you are virtual, you have the option to pick up a kit or have one sent home with your child.

-The MS will perform the Music Man musical on 3/25 and 3/26. There will be a in school performance for the IS on 3/24.

HKIS Principal's Report (Eric Larson):

-Spring club fliers went home this week. Registration for the clubs is now open.

-World Down Syndrome Day is 3/21. We will have Crazy Sock Day on this date. We will also be collecting brand new pairs of socks from 3/11 to 3/18. The socks will be donated to the HK Backpack Program and HK Social Services.

-Eric thanked the PTO for materials for Valentines Day bags. We are hoping for a larger celebration with snacks next year so may need an increase in this budget.

HKIMS Lead Teacher (Michele Ouellette):

-The school is running a Choose to Include campaign. There is a poster in the cafeteria for kids to sign to pledge to include others. Kids will ask others to sit with them at lunch or play a game at recess.

-There is a large Unified Sports Basketball Tournament on 3/8. A 7th grade HKMS student will be playing the National Anthem on the saxophone.

-We will have 120 tickets for sale for a 5/7 Yard Goats game.

-On May 26th we are hoping to have a Blood Drive in the auditorium during the AAFA show.

Committee Reports:

Logo Wear (Karen Castelli):

-Logo Wear sale won't be held this spring. Looking to hold one before the next school year starts (late summer/early fall).

Box Tops (Karen Castelli):

-Will be getting a flyer out to the IS soon.

Book Fair (BJ Noonan):

-Our school librarian, Leanne Honious, was excited about getting scholastic dollars. She bought books at a 25% off sale. She will send a photo with the books she purchased. The rest of the scholastic dollars (about \$3000) will be used for March's Read Across America.

PTO Leadership (BJ Noonan):

-Superintendent Wihbey talked about the new optional masks at school, school budget, new support staff and special ed teachers he is interested in hiring.

Welcome Wagon:

Daenya has a new 4th grader who came to the IS in January. She thanked the committee for the welcome package her child received and said it was really appreciated.

Cultural Arts (Karen Castelli):

-Thursday, 4/14th we are working on a contract to have Roots of American Music come in.

-The students still have a 3' distance they need to maintain, which means every other seat in the auditorium can be used. We will still need 3 performances (one for the IS and two for the MS).

-May is a busy month with state testing, but do we want to try and plan an event for June? We have 2 good options for events, and we can split them to have one event for the IS and one event for the MS. The first event would be Abdou Sarr, West African dance and culture. The second event would be a BMX youth program with emphasis on anti-bullying, healthy choices, bike safety and drug awareness.

Yearbook (Karen Castelli):

-We need more photos for the IS yearbook. Parents can start decorating their individual 2 pages for the yearbook.

New Business:

-Michele O. mentioned that the IS student council would like some new recess equipment totaling \$292.

Michele will look to see what she already has, and the rest she will purchase and get reimbursed from Jen S.

-Dolores is still working on getting a list of games and type of cabinet to store them in for lunch/recess/after school.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm by Karen Castell

Next meeting scheduled for April 6, 2022 @ 7pm.