

Horizon Elementary – School Community Organization (SCO) Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm

9 people in attendance via Zoom

Approval of November Minutes

- Motion to approve minutes by Michelle V, all in favor.

Financial Report

Kristen gave the financial report and said that the largest expenditure for February was a staff appreciation lunch and that funds from Amazon Smile came in. Many thanks to all the parents who use Amazon Smile to support Horizon! Michelle V made a motion to approve the financial report, all in favor.

Principal Remarks-

- Michelle said the all school movie field trip is set for March 17th. This is a make-up day from when school was canceled due to weather before Christmas break and Michelle said the logistics are easier for this date as Horizon will be the only school at the theater and they can time the trip to not affect the lunch schedule. Students will see Amazing Maurice.
- Michelle said that the 4th graders will have a swim instruction unit in April and will travel to West High School to use their pool.
- Michelle said that the Wisconsin Forward exams will be given the 1st and 2nd weeks of April for the 3rd, 4th and 5th graders and reminded parents to make sure students eat well and get good rest during testing.
- Michelle said that the kids at Horizon are doing well and she is seeing good behavior overall from students. Michelle said this is a credit to parents and teachers.
- Michelle reported on the Horizon Leadership team's efforts to improve their practices as teachers through cross collaboration among the grade level teaching teams. Michelle said that when teachers create the team goals and 100 day plans the goals are loftier and the investment is greater and the teams are doing great work together.
- Michelle discussed Ms. Williams' departure for another job opportunity and said that while she will be missed Horizon has a long term substitute teacher, Srivalli Paulson Ihlenfeld, set for the rest of the year who is familiar with the district. Michelle also said that 4 other teachers are taking FMLA leaves this semester and all those positions are covered as well.

Presentation from Gina Neumann on the Advanced Learner Program

Gina Neumann gave an excellent presentation on the Advanced Learner Program and her work with teachers and students at Horizon. Gina has been at Horizon since it opened and began teaching reading in second grade, but now she assesses students' scores and identifies students who need more advanced material. Gina supports students with advanced learning needs by supporting their teachers with more advanced content. Gina also showed how learning themes in reading move from kindergarten to first grade to second grade in a progression- knowing this helps teachers move advanced students to their next steps in reading and also helps teachers know what all students will need for their next year of learning. Gina said that students in the advanced learner program score in the 90th percentile for 3 out of 4 consecutive state tests and

that she works primarily with 4th and 5th graders. Gina went over some of the opportunities that ALP students have such as Math 24, a local math competition and various writing competitions like the regional Greater Dane Writing Project. Gina said that the WIN time during the school day is when she works with advanced learners most and that parents can always email if they have any questions about the Advanced Learner Program.

Old Business

- The MOD Pizza dine out night raised \$98 for the SCO and the Liv's Drink Emporium Shares day is Monday 3/13.
- Staff appreciation for March will be St. Patrick's Day themed snacks on Thursday 3/16

New Business

- The SCO is seeking nominations for next year's board at the April SCO meeting- we would like to finish board elections by the end of the school year to have a faster onboarding process for new members. The board will need a new president and fundraiser as Heather and Nicole are not running next year but any parent interested in any position should reach out as some remaining members are willing to switch roles.
- Spring semester classroom grants are open now and the submission deadline is March 31st. The SCO board will discuss and approve grants at their April board meeting, but any parent wishing to join the classroom grant process is welcome.
- The Sun Prairie Area School District Superintendent, Dr. Brad Saron, will join the Horizon SCO for a presentation and Q&A at the May 11th SCO meeting. All parents/ guardians are welcome to attend and if parents have questions but cannot attend they are welcome to email questions to any board member.

Other Business

- The SCO is working on the Horizon directory with a goal of completing it before spring break. Michelle supports sending a digital copy when it is available.
- Michelle will send an email to all parents with links to order the 2022-2023 yearbooks.

Motion to adjourn by Michelle K and seconded by Michelle V, all in favor. Adjourned at 6:44 pm.

Next meeting on Thursday, April 13, 2023 in person at Horizon in the LGI

Respectfully submitted by Morgan Aten, Horizon SCO Secretary

Please contact the SCO by emailing any of the following:

President– Heather Peschl	president@horizonsco.org
Vice President– Jenny Nielsen	vicepresident@horizonsco.org
Secretary– Morgan Aten	secretary@horizonsco.org
Treasurer– Kristen Bradley	treasurer@horizonsco.org
Fundraiser– Nicole Huss	fundraiser@horizonsco.org

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