

WINNEBAGO PTO MEETING MINUTES-NOVEMBER 10TH, 2015

Sherri Ginger, President Lindsay Ludwig, Vice President Bonnie Bloomquist, Treasurer

Teacher Chairperson, Rhonda Waggoner Angela Schoeneweiss, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 6:05

Secretary's Report: October 2015 minutes were read. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Tracy Ricks and seconded by Carrie Lemke.

Treasurer's Report: As of November 10th, 2015, the cash balance is 43,974.54.

Principal's Reports: Mr. Mandera- At-Risk Student Update: As of November 6, we currently have 49 students receiving extra reading and math intervention in grades K-2. 10 of those students are also receiving math assistance with math facts.

Fall Festival Parties

Each grade level reported great success with their teacher-led parties on October 30. Activities included tree building, pumpkin seed counting, scarecrows, and pumpkin bowling. Many grade levels are planning activities for Thanksgiving on Nov 24. Teachers are preparing Winter parties and tentatively set the date for December 17.

Veteran's Day Activities

Classrooms did age appropriate lessons and activities to promote to the idea of patriotism and government during November 11.

Simon Literacy Night – November 12

We will hold our annual Simon Reading Night on Thursday, November 12 from 5:30-7:30. We will have a variety of guest readers, smores in the cafeteria, book raffles, public library book sale, and much more!

reminder about
remind

parent-teacher conferences - november 5-6

Parent Teacher Conferences

Thank you to all the parents and volunteers that assisted in bring food during conferences this year. The teachers were very appreciative.

As the Weather Turns Colder

As the weather soon will turn colder, it is VERY important that students come to school prepared to go outside for recess. We will have recess if the temperature and wind chill is 15 degrees and above.

If a child cannot go outside due to medical reasons, please provide a doctors excuse for the child to remain inside.

Should weather or some other unexpected circumstances require the school to be closed or the students to be dismissed early, the district will be using the School Messenger system and information will be broadcast over radio station WROK (1440 AM) in Rockford or other local radio or television stations.

WIFR even offers text messaging of school closings. If you are interested in this option, go to their web site at <http://www.wifr.com>. Parents are asked to listen for early school closings during days of bad weather conditions.

When school is dismissed early for emergency reasons, (inclement weather, specific school building problems/situations, etc.) all after school activities at that building are cancelled, unless noted otherwise. Winnebago Kids Club is cancelled in the event of such emergency cancellations of school as well.

Also, parents please remember the speed limit on school grounds in the parking lot areas is 5 MPH, especially when weather is icy or snowy. Keep our children safe and drive slow.

Illinois School Report Card

Illinois' state school report card officially launched 10/30/2015. The new report card paints a picture of the learning environment at every school in Illinois, providing information about academic performance, the school environment, available courses and programs.

The report card, accessible at illinoisreportcard.com, includes both an Online Report Card that offers an in-depth view of school- and district-level information as well as an At-a-Glance Report Card that provides a simple, one-page, printable view of a school or district's most important information.

Please visit the new report card site at illinoisreportcard.com

Performance Scales and Report Card

As report cards go home on December 4, you will notice that there are no "traditional" letter grades of A-F. Your child's academic performance will be rated on a performance scale of the following:

M Mastered
G+ Above Grade Level
G At Grade Level
G- Below Grade Level
N Needs Improvement

This performance scale better reflects the age of students we have at Simon.

As we go through the school year, you will see more and more learning objectives added to the report card. The 3rd trimester report card in grades K-2 will show all areas that have been taught and assessed during the course of the school year. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher or Mr. Mandera.

Mr. Monohan- **Red Ribbon Week:** Red Ribbon Week was held the week of October 26-October 30. Students were encouraged to make pledges to remain drug free, while sporting red ribbon bracelets for the week. Prizes were awarded each day to students caught still wearing their red ribbon, fact filled announcements were shared each morning by 5th graders, and students and staff celebrated being drug free with theme days throughout the week.

Classroom Parties:

Traditional classroom holiday parties have been restructured this year and our first fall celebration events were a huge success. We incorporated local resources (Prairie View Assisted Living, Boone Winnebago Farm Bureau and Burpee Museum) to help us celebrate agriculture, scarecrows and Native Americans. Thanks to the many parents that donated time (14 parents) and/or items (145 parents) to helping with these activities. Plans are currently being made for winter and Valentine activities and will be shared with you next month.

Golden Apple Recognition:

Congratulations to several McNair teachers who were recently nominated for the Golden Apple Foundation of Rockford's annual teaching award. Congratulations to Angie Coy, Mandey Johnson, Julie Reesor, Stacey Schaller, Heather Rapp, Jodie Lehne, Mike Belden, Anne Rezich, Jacqui McWilliams, Debbie Babbitt, Kathi Engelkes, Suzann Alde, Tracy Miller, and Nancy Stevens. These teachers will be recognized at a nominee reception on Wednesday, November 18, from 4:30-6:00pm at the Radisson Hotel in Rockford, where they will also be encouraged to take the next step in the process.

Conferences:

Parent Teacher Conferences were held on Wednesday, November 4 and Thursday, November 5. Staff met with parents of 265 students over the course of these two days, which is 89% of our student body. Thanks, also, to all the parents who donated food and other goodies.

Tornado Drill:

We held a Shelter in Place (Tornado) Drill on Tuesday, November 10. Students and staff relocated to the lower level of the building in less than two and a half minutes.

Veterans Day:

Veterans Day will be recognized on Wednesday, November 11, with various activities taking place during the day, including visits by local veterans, students and staff will be wearing red, white and blue or camouflage, and students have been bringing information from home about family members and/or friends who have served our country for display in classrooms and hallways. In addition, students have written letters, thank-yous and drawn pictures for local veterans at the end of the week.

Title One and STAR Enterprise:

November data meetings are being held this week with each grade level, Mrs. Reesor, and Mrs. Peters. These meetings were to follow up with recent progress monitoring, as well as to see if there were any concerns following parent teacher conferences. We will meet again in January once we've completed the mid-year STAR testing.

PBIS Update:

McNair's PRIDE Patrol is off and running. Our PRIDE Patrol officer has been making announcements, announcing prizes and there are pictures of him throughout the building reminding students of what our monthly focus is, currently cafeteria behavior. We are also selling McNair PRIDE Patrol hats for one of our PBIS fundraisers this year and will be encouraging students to wear them on Monday's beginning in January.

Upcoming Events:

- McNair Music Movie Night, Friday, November 20, "Disney's Fantasia 2000"
- Ag in the Classroom Presentation to 3rd Grade, November 23
- NO SCHOOL, Wednesday, November 25-Friday, November 27, Thanksgiving Holiday
- 4th and 5th Grade Choral Concert, Thursday, December 10, WHS Cafetorium, 6:30pm
- 5th grade Chorus sings at the Rockford Ice Hogs game, Saturday, December 12, BMO Harris Bank Center, 7:00pm

Student Newspaper:

The Bago Gazette, McNair's student newspaper is currently in its second year of publication. Students apply for positions (story writer, editor, photographer, book reviews, movie reviews, local attraction reviews, comics, food reviews and current events) and then meet after school once a month with parent volunteer, Kathy Naill, and members of the WHS Key Club to finalize their assignments that they've worked on all month long. This year we have 14 students in grades three through five on our newspaper staff.

Yearbook Committee:

We have nine fifth graders who are working with Miss Gleason, kindergarten teacher and PTO yearbook adviser, a couple of times a month to put together the Simon/McNair elementary yearbook. The students are really enjoying this opportunity and look forward to their after school meetings.

Committee Report:**DARE**

Fifth grade students have just completed their 4th week of DARE. Graduation is set for Wednesday, January 20, at 6:30pm in the high school cafeteria.

Monetary Requests: None at this time.

Fundraiser Reports: Fall Fundraiser: Jamie Dimke- Pig race was a big hit. Congratulations to Mrs. Unger's class and Mrs. Babbit's class for being the top selling classes to get a pizza party.

Spiritwear: Sherri Ginger-Orders can be picked up on November 11th. Another order form will go out in December.

World's Finest Chocolate: Lindsay Ludwig- 306 boxes went out the first week. We still have 137 boxes to sell. The cut off date is November 20th.

Committee Reports: Dare: Mr. Monohan- The 5th grade students are moving right along. Graduation is January 20th.

Children's Bazaar: Inga Danko- December 5th from 8-12. Kids get to shop for family members. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there this year. We are still in need of crafty people and in purchasing things.

Coke Rewards: Sherri Ginger- still need help entering them. Can enter 75 per week per email.

Yearbook: Jaime Dimke- Online only sale through December 25th for \$16.00.

Conference Luncheon: Angela Bucey and Sherri Ginger- Went over well. Thank you to all who brought in food.

Family Fun Night: Alicia Glaser- Need to set up a date.

YMCA: Tracey Ricks and Abbey Peterson- Need to make a date.

Box Tops: Ginnie Cunningham- The fall check was just over \$2,200.

Old Business: Adult Night Out: Lindsay Ludwig- Need more information on painting class.

Open Chair Positions:

Children's Bazaar Co-Chair

New Ideas/Suggestions: Mrs. Mumm- End of the year teacher gifts idea for phone.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:01.

Respectfully submitted, Angela Schoeneweiss