

## Hickory Grove PTO Minutes

March 18, 2014

IN ATTENDANCE: J. VandeWiele, S. Johnson, T. Hands, N. Pollard, J. Harre, A. Baca, C. Myint, R. Olmstead, R. Beard, L. Eisman, K. Gray, M. Gardner, L. Preston, T., Beckman, M. Radeline, A. Gleason, J. Etnyre, K. Norbutas, J. Ross, A. Hoehne, M. Martin, L. Malalahalli, L. Metzger, S. Anderson, K. Johnson, J. Cekander, S. Solorio

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by Shelby Johnson. Shelby Johnson reads norms.

Motion: Nikki Pollard motions to approve the agenda. Christine Myint seconds. Motion passes.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: J. Etnyre

Calendar:

- 3/31- Running Club 2:45-3:45 (increase from 50-60 students because there are two additional sponsors)
- 4/2- Spring Pictures
- 4/8- K-2 Music Program
- 4/15- Kindergarten registration

ISATS are completed. Great job by all, wonderful positive attitudes! This was the final year of ISAT. Next year is PARCC which are computer based tests. From 5/12-5/16 5 Wooden and 5 Gombert will do a pilot test for PARCC in math. The pilot test will not come with results, but is just for experience.

COGAT tests will be taken in April in grades 2 and 4. These are very important tests because they show the best ways students learn and are used in placement in Enrichment Eagles.

Algebra Testing will be from April 22-25. This is used for middle school math placement.

HGES Assistant Principal Announcement: Antonio Johnson will be assistant principal at HGES beginning in the fall. He will be at HGES two mornings a week from 7-1:00. He will be assisting with teacher evaluations.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGES: The district has announced that they are proposing to eliminate busing of students who live less than 1.5 miles from school and don't have to cross hazardous roads. The board is voting on this on Wednesday, 3/19. After the vote, neighborhoods affected will be announced, as well as crossing guard placement, and changes in pick up and drop off procedures. Likely pick up and drop off will use both parking lots. Safety will come before convenience.

OLD BUSINESS: iPads vs. Playground equipment

3 options for playground equipment (see proposal boards).

- 1) \$5500-\$9000
- 2) \$13,900-\$24,900
- 3) \$22,758

Discussion: Renee Beard from the playground equipment company is here to answer questions. Listed below is a summary of answers to questions.

The equipment is purchased at a discount.  
The numbers are very reliable estimates.  
Rubber mulch costs twice as much as wood mulch.  
Rubber mulch has a lower injury rate than wood mulch.  
The area includes rubber play curbs (not concrete)  
Renee will rework price to include rubber mulch after an equipment package is chosen.

An additional option to consider in the future is a rubber cap that can be poured over the top of compacted rubber mulch. This cap is pliable and prevents mulch loss and spread. The cost is \$12 per square foot in the new area, would be less with the existing base mulch. This cap would allow the playground to be more handicap accessible.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jennifer VandeWiele

LAUNCH raised a total of \$12,129.84!! It was a great event thanks to all that helped!

Nominating Committee decided on a slate of PTO officers and we will vote at the April PTO meeting.

The Yearbook looks great!

Box Tops had a successful collection!

V.P. FUNDRAISING'S REPORT: Ann Baca

Thanks everyone for your donations and time! The silent auction had an amazing total! Next year the rules for silent auction bids will have to be clarified. Some people bid on things they had no intention of paying for.

VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP'S REPORT: Mandy Radeline

No report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Nikki Pollard

Motion: Jeanna Ross motions to approve the February minutes. Lara Metzger seconds. Motion approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tanja Hands

(See handout). There is \$31,084.45 in the PTO account. We need to discuss how much to reserve for the future.

Motion: Lara Metzger motions to approve the Treasurer report. Kendra Gray seconds. Motion approved.

ROOM PARENT: Lisa Eisman

Lisa asks for money to buy one trophy per grade for field day. The winning class will keep the trophy for a year. There is currently a \$50 budget for popsicles. Trophy cost would be \$60 and is a one time expense.

Motion: Lisa Eisman motions for a \$60 increase in the 2014 Field Day budget, which is a one time expense. Mandy Radeline seconds. Motion approved.

SOCIAL/HOSPITALITY: Lorrie Preston and Michelle Martin

Muffins with Mom will be coming up in April.

Picnic on the Playground? Is it Social/Hospitality? No, it is VP Fundraising, but there should be a committee to help.

YEARBOOK: Christine Myint

341 yearbooks were sold at \$15 each. The cost was \$15.75. 375 were ordered. There are 25 extra yearbooks which can be purchased for \$20 each.

ACCELERATED READER: Sarah Anderson

AR store will be in May. There are 5 extra classes.

SCRIP: Kathy Johnson

\$120 profit from the last sale.

CULTURE FAIR: Lakshmi Malalahalli

Friday, April 4 at 5:00 pm

Mrs. Norbutas will organize staff help.

Trying to anticipate attendance, forms were sent home.

Display cases are done.

More volunteers are still needed.

There will be 13 countries on display.

A world map will be on the wall near the office. Each family should put a sticker on the area where their family comes from.

It will consist of a world tour with a parade at the end.

Mrs. Johnson (art teacher) made a globe.

Help will be needed with the passports for the students.

PROJECT IMPACT: Janelle Harre

Laps for Life will be on April 25.

SPIRIT WEAR: Jayme Cekander

Orders are due April 4. April 4 is the next HGES Spirit Day.

STAFF APPRECIATION: Jeanna Ross

The next Staff Appreciation Lunch will be on Friday, March 21 and will be from Jalapeno's

MARKET DAY: Amy Hoehne

Profit was over \$100 for February sale.

COPY COORDINATOR: Marcie Gardner

May sign up will be coming out

Copy Moms should not be making PTO copies.

BOOK FAIR: none

LIBRARY: Toni Beckman

Please reshelv books properly and help the kids while you are there!

DIRECTORY: Lara Metzger

Directory website is open April 1.

OLD BUSINESS (continued): Jennifer VandeWiele

Fall Fundraiser vs. Donation Drive.

Open discussion:

- 650 kids, 400 families
- if each family donated \$50, we would have \$20,000. We might be able to get half of that.
- 2013 fall fundraiser made \$15,000, \$2155 of which was straight donations
- A formal letter would be sent out including a tax donation letter
- Options could also include an ice cream social
- Boosterthon was suggested by Roxanne Olmstead, kids run laps for donations.
- Lisa Eisman suggested HGES could do their own boosterthon instead of hiring a company to manage it. Expenses would be tshirts for each kid and rubber bands to mark laps. Lots of parent volunteers would be needed. If HGES ran it, then all money would be profit

Motion: Lisa Eisman motions to suspend the fall fundraiser and try a donation drive instead. Lara Metzger seconds. Motion approved.

Budget Review: W-W \$4000-\$5000 carries over. If we hold back \$8000 it would still leave us with \$23000 to spend now.

Purchase Proposals: Jeremy Etnyre

Options are Outdoor Recreation vs Educational/Instructional Technology

- iPad- what does it give us that we don't already have? It's handheld.
- there are 12 computers for each grade level and 2 computer labs for the whole building.
- These are portable and can come into the classroom.
- Allow for easier integration of technology.
- PARCC tests will take 13 days to get finished if both computer labs are used for the whole day with no breaks.
- Twice a year the PARCC tests are given, which means 1/4 of the year the computer lab would not be available.
- DGS, BES, WW all have iPad carts the PTO has provided.

Discussion:

- iPads would act as a mobile computer lab, we would need 15 or more iPads.
- How to maintain iPads? Who loads apps? The district technology department deals with iPads.
- What if one breaks? Good cases will have to be bought, an additional separate expense.
- Are iPad 2's obsolete because iPad 4's are coming out?
- Ann Baca asked if there is any federal or state grant money. Mrs. Norbutas answered that grants are not usually technology based.
- Mandy Radeline asked how the iPads will be used in the classroom. Mrs. Norbutas answered that one way would be to record fluency for reading. They could also be used for STAR testing, LEXIA, and IXL testing.
- Toni Beckman asked how do you get to use them? Mrs. Norbutas answered sign up sheets.

Then there was a show of hands. Who wants technology (ipads) and playground equipment? The majority present want both technology and playground options.

Motion: Lara Metzger motions that the PTO use available funds to purchase both technology and playground equipment for HGES. Ashley Gleason seconds. 4 are opposed. Motion passes.

NEW BUSINESS: Now we need to decide how much money to spend on each item (iPads and cart and Playground equipment). We need 15-30 iPads.

Discussion: Lara Metzger speaks on behalf of the playground supervisors and says that they feel a huge amount of additional playground equipment is not necessary.

The cost of a 30 iPad cart is \$14,000.

Kathy Johnson proposes spending an equal amount on playground equipment and technology.

60-90 days to install playground equipment once we decide what we are buying.

If the PTO gifts the iPads to HGES, the district will service them.

Motion: Lara Metzger proposes buying 30 iPads and option 1 for the playground. Janelle Harre seconds.

Discussion of motion:

Question: Is \$8000 adequate for fall? Mandy Radeline points out that the PTO has been holding onto the money for two years. The PTO goal is to raise and spend the money.

Question: Sarah Anderson points out that option 1 is vague, with a cost of \$5500-\$9000. The students will vote on the equipment to be purchased which is why option 1 is vague. The difference could be used to buy extra equipment.

Motion fails.

Motion: Tanja Hands motions for the PTO to buy 10 iPads and a mobile cart and use the rest of the money for the playground. Kathy Johnson seconds.

(\$23000 to spend - \$6300 iPads leaves \$16,500 for playground.)

Motion fails.

Motion: Amy Hoehne motions for the PTO to buy 15 iPads, a mobile cart, and option 1 for the playground. The remainder of the money will be saved and will carry over. The leftover money can be spent in April or May or saved until the fall. Motion was seconded.

15 iPads with cart \$8194

Option 1 for playground (up to \$9000), kids will vote on which piece of equipment they want.

Motion passes.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm by Jennifer VandeWiele.