

## Tuesday, October 20th

Introductions

Vote in of new secretary:

Kim Klinge was voted in as new secretary.

Principal Notes:

First awards ceremony is tomorrow. There are five ceremonies in the year. Kids get blue tickets (random acts of kindness, assignment completion, etc.) They begin at 1:10 with 2nd and 3rd grade. 4th and 5th graders are next and ends with K and 1. Each student is recognized once in the year. The tickets are drawn for prizes.

Conferences are coming up. Slips went home in folders. Please return slips, one form per family.

We have had a really good start, closed at K with 26 kids per class. 1st grade has twenty+ new students. 2nd through 5th grade has a few spots.

Is there a book club? There is a parent volunteer, but it begins in 2nd grade. It's possible that individual teachers and hourly teachers are doing some small groups. Check with your classroom teacher.

Title 1:

The Title 1 presentation was shared by Ms. Gebeke. We are at about 50% free or reduced lunch at Chelsea. This is a federal government money given to district. Districts decide how to use the money. Title 1 money supports homeless families, Project Reach, transportation to original school if a family is displaced.

Chelsea Heights is allocated \$83,600. We use money for a cultural specialist and para in kindergarten.

Each school has a school Family Engagement Plan. Title 1 compacts were signed at the beginning of the year and updated by PTO.

The MMR was described by Ms. Gebeke. The scores gives you a title. Chelsea Heights is a Celebration Eligible school.

Title 1 is based on the previous school year's free and reduced numbers.

How much money were we bringing in through Target? About \$4,000. Anita is looking into Amazon Smile.

Club's Choice Results:

We just wrapped up the sale and did the sale earlier this year. \$17,500 is our total.

Online sales were \$2,600 and we get 41.5%. We sold 3000 items so we get a \$500 bonus per our contract. We are at the end of our 2 year contract. Parent feedback shared that kids liked the key chains.

Donations = \$1400 We get 100% of cash donations.

Winning classroom was Palewicz.

Delivery day is Election Day, November 3rd from 2:30-5:30pm. The date on the envelope was inaccurate.

There was mixed feedback about doing the sale earlier this year. Student involvement is tracked.

Bonfire/Thank you NWC:

This was in early October, with a flu shot clinic, concessions and spirit wear sales. Darcy and Ashley asked for feedback and thanked the PTO for getting volunteers. There was great weather and a good turn out. People liked the DJ and parents said the 6-8:00 time frame worked well. Spirit Wear brought in about \$400. Have you thought about food trucks for dinner? Darcy said she could bring it up if there's interest.

Rec Center:

Soccer has wrapped up. Older kids basketball registration has ended. Younger ages can still register. There are many opportunities for 3 & 4 year olds and these are parent/child activities. There are some winter break activities available and winter programming begins Dec. 14th. Spring sports registration starts Jan. 1.

Open gym for families, parents and kids, is from 3-5 on Sundays in the winter. Men's soccer starts soon. Women's basketball is Dec-March. February after football is Men's basketball. This will be on Sunday afternoons. That registration begins Dec. 14th. Expect to see flyers before Dec. 14th. Brooke can also email them out. Youth dance begins in November.

First Friday in Dec. is spaghetti with Mr. & Mrs. Claus at Langford from 5:30-7:00.

Is there scholarship support? There is a fee assistance program, a form needs to be completed before registration begins. You can receive up to 50% of an activity fee. The max is \$100 per year. The form should be completed before registration begins so seats do not fill up. If you have an interest in an activity (chess, languages, book club, etc), contact Darcy or Ashley. If you can be an instructor for an activity, contact Darcy at Northwest Como.

Budget:

We dipped into our savings to give out grants. There is still a need for members of a grant committee. Teachers apply for the grants. This goes above and beyond the \$250 teachers receive.

\$900 of the \$1400 requested was given to the 5th grade teachers for a reader's program.

A request was also made for yearbooks for students.

Anita would like to add information to the newsletter for seeking grants committee members.

Freestyle is not continuing their no work fundraiser.

Club's Choice is not shown in the budget yet. We don't have final numbers due to online sales.

The grant money is dispersed three times a year.

No questions were asked of the budget.

#### Destination Imagination:

Sarah gave an update on DI. DI is for 2nd through 5th graders. Information went home. DI is a global program where seven challenges are presented (artistic, scientific, technical etc.) to students. 2nd graders are not judged. Teams choose which challenge to accept and work through the season on the challenge. Sarah read last year's technical challenge as an example.

A former team from Chelsea Heights went to globals and presented there. This is a very student-driven activity and is an after school activity and is a STEM type activity. There is a \$50 fee, but financial assistance is available. There is a strong interest in the upper grades and parent volunteers are needed. Two adults per team works really well. There is flexibility to meeting times, but teams meet usually on Wednesdays after school and team volunteers need to pass background checks.

#### Book Club:

Grades 2-4. This is during the school day and requires parent volunteers. Strong reading and discussion skills are needed for students. It is based on Junior Great Books. Teachers are finishing reading assessments and getting to know students and clubs will form soon. Sarah can be emailed with questions. Sarah also asked for volunteers for the carnival committee. Carnival is May 20th

#### Coat Drive:

An email went home about the Salvation Army event for families in need of coats. This is during the day.

Chelsea Heights is also hosting their own event. We have donations and will host a coat and winter wear event. It's Thursday, Nov. 5th from 5-7:00 pm. You can trade coats, no questions asked, in cafeteria. This will be a community event. If you have donations, let Julie know. Items given in advance have been washed. You can also bring items to the event but they will not be washed. If you'd like to volunteer let Brooke know. A yellow flyer went home.

Shriners runs an activity where they sell hats and mittens for ten cents.

Mitten Makers donates knitted items to schools as well.

#### Food Drive:

We partnered with Neighborhood House last year. We ran it for five weeks, but included Thanksgiving and Winter Break. We donated over 1500 pounds of food. We have not finalized plans for this year, but it will run from Nov. 2nd - Dec. 5th. Information can be found in Cheetah Chatter. Volunteers will help collect food.

Teachers and staff use food from Food Drive to give holiday gifts to families. Staff doesn't know which families get the donations. About 7 or 8 families received gifts last year.

Parents discussed incentives for the food drive.

Give to the Max Day:

Brooke described the day. You can donate to your favorite non-profit.

It is November 12th. We received nearly \$300 last year. Information will be coming out soon.

We need to follow up on the school website with a link. Parents can also write checks.

December meeting/FMSC:

Brooke shared the idea that a group from Chelsea Heights could do a Feed My Starving Children night. December 19th is the only night available from 7-9 PM. The Executive Committee discussed the date and is looking for interest.

The idea of a community service activity was well received by the PTO. Could we do a service night later in the school year when organizations do not already have a lot of volunteers?

Ronald McDonald House also takes volunteers for serving dinners.

Are there needs in our community for service?

Clothing drives, toiletry drives were mentioned. Project Reach does blanket drives.

The following Ideas were given: reading to kids at Children's Hospital, Keystone Community recently sent a flyer.

A Turkey Bingo fundraiser for November was described by Matt.

Closing Remarks:

Next meeting is November 10th. Conferences are the following week. The facilities master plan will be on the agenda. Suggestions for our building will be shared. An architect will be sharing ideas.

Sky Zone is our no work fundraiser on Thursday. Next week is picture retakes.

No school on October 30th.