

# Hemmeter Parent Teacher Council Minutes

October 1, 2014, 6:00 PM

Ms. Lewis' room

- I. Call to Order/Welcome: Jennifer Jaffe at 6:01 p.m.  
In Attendance: Jennifer Jaffe, Jenny Boelter, Jaime Huffman, Sarah Jane Deibel, Jim Bailey, Jill Rummler, Josh Mosher, Jenna Whiteherse, Erin Casey, Jenesa Niswonger, Emily Deibel, Debra Dudewicz, Sarah Burke, Ayesha Chowdhury, Lisa Starke, Lisa Beird.
- II. Secretary's Report: Sarah Jane Deibel
  - a. September minutes were submitted. A motion was made by Sarah Jane Deibel to accept the minutes and seconded by Deb Dudewicz.
  - b. Thank you note for acknowledging her birthday was received from Krista Weber.
- III. Financial Report – Jenny Boelter reported:
  - a. SCRIP Revenue for September was \$1,157.07
  - b. Box Tops/Labels for Education – received \$1,341.40 and are hoping to double that on the Nov 1 submission for the December check. Christina DeCaire & Jennifer Sederlund will be holding a competition October 1-29.
  - c. Movie Event – held Sept 29 (PD day) We made \$211.25.
  - d. Lego Club is over budget due to increased cost, but kids in Lego Robotics will supplement with their participation fees.
- IV. Vice-President's Report: Jaime Huffman
  - a. The movie went well, especially for warm weather. They will repeat around February with the release of a big movie.
  - b. Papa Johns fundraiser October 9. Mr. Slice will be here for pictures.
  - c. Volunteer forms are collected and a list of parent helpers went to teachers.
  - d. Book fair has a lot of volunteers.
  - e. Jill La Rue organized the Staff Appreciation luncheon and recognized teacher birthdays in September.
  - f. Luann Bugbee changed the bulletin board by the office and Stacey Rutherford will maintain it through the year.
  - g. Square One Art Fundraiser is coming up.
- V. October's Happenings – Jennifer Jaffe
  - a. Homecoming Float – Thanks to the Leuenbergers for doing the float for Friday
  - b. Thanks to Jim Bailey for hosting extra events to allow parents a better peek into the school. Coffee talk told about what was happening at school and the Book Club was awesome.

- c. Goals of HPTC meetings are to show the purpose of our fundraisers and how the success of our programs comes from having so many people involved.
- d. Fall Book Fair, November 17-21 including Conferences on Wed-Thurs.  
Erin Casey reported that they went to the Scholastic Workshop, received a decoration kit and a lot of ideas to go with the theme. Marti Lisik will take pictures of the teachers to use with the theme decorations. May do tickets for kids "caught reading" for them to get a small prize at the book fair (like bookmark or pencil). Approval was given for them to spend \$25 on small prizes. Emily Deibel offered to cut names or labels with her silhouette machine to help. Erin's friend offered to donate a cake for a competition class prize, but we decided to save this for Spring Book Fair.  
Book Fair will be open 7:20 until school pick-up clears out and during evening conferences. Fall has had each class come on a "buy" visit; spring had preview/wish list as well as buy visits. Plan to display lost and found items during conferences. Jill will create a sign-up sheet for volunteers. LuAnn will help choose spring dates to book with Scholastic.
- e. Used Book Fair (October 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>) – Amy Denay: looking for more help to set-up & price books with Luann Bugbee in Recycle Room.
- f. Kids Run the Nation – Jaime Huffman: 118 kids so it is busy but the kids are having fun and doing well. There was a local High School runner who came on Monday to talk to the first grade KRTN group (See Facebook HPTC). Final Race in November and White Pine is hosting an invitational. She will meet with Steve Elliot about the (district) Elementary Running Club to see about collaborating/using one system.
- g. Hemmeter Family Directory – request for information came home today.

## VI. Standing Committees

- a. SPARK (Feb 27) – Deb Dudewicz: tonight's meeting will be to pick a theme. They have some presentation leaders & groups coming in. Assembly options include Dr. Slime and the Pistons.  
There will be a lot of turnover in the next couple of years and they need co-chairs to train in Volunteer Coordinator and PR. The goal is to involve lots of parents & individuals: Have one parent per grade in charge of speakers, etc for their grade.
- b. Fun Fair (Mar 21) – Becky & Josh Mosher
- c. Jaime will provide Volunteer list. First meeting will be in November. They also need co-chairs to prepare for turnover in next two years. Need a volunteer to do the Box Maze (about 6 hours of set-up but kids love it), Sponge Bob, and Pop Toss (20 oz). Elissa Basil helping in the kitchen.
- d. SCRIP – Emily Deibel – Getting more donations by requesting \$1 instead of \$8 to assist with shipping costs. FedEx changed the route and will arrive at Hemmeter between 4:00-5:00, but no one is here to sign for Scrip and secure in safe. FedEx will not change the route and not alternative delivery method is reasonable. HPTC decided to double shipping to have it delivered during school hours. Because SCRIP money gets transferred to HPTC, if HPTC needs SCRIP cards, email Emily and she will keep track of the balance to be deducted from the year-

end check to HPTC. Spelling bee gift card funds are deducted from "other" in SCRIP

SCRIP owes HPTC \$3000 from last year according to Emily's records. Will pay tonight.

- e. School Store – Jennifer Jaffe: An order will be going out for the holidays.
- f. Staff Appreciation – Jaime Huffman: Jill La Rue is organizing a monthly treat for the staff and giving a gift card to teachers for their birthday from HPTC. The Teacher Luncheon is a separate committee handling the May Teacher Appreciation Week. HPTC will provide a dinner for the Teachers during Parent Teacher Conferences.
- g. Math Curriculum night - Jennifer Jaffe: Teachers will be coming voluntarily to school to do a Math Curriculum night in October. Jen Jaffe motioned that HPTC provide dinner for the teachers on that night in a budget of \$200. Jaime Huffman seconded and it passed unanimously.

#### VII. Faculty Report: Jill Rummler

Jill goes to the teachers of each grade and asks if there's anything they want to share. They are working on routines for the new year (especially K-2).

Kindergarten – Kindergarten will visit Johnson's Pumpkin Patch and Papa Johns this month. They will also receive a visit from Firefighter Brian.

First Grade – First grade is beginning career month. Parents volunteer their time to share about their careers in the classrooms. For Halloween, students dress up as what they want to be when they grow up.

Second Grade – Second grade is beginning Solid Earth unit in Science. The students are excited about having Science Notebooks. They will be completing a landform project at home at the end of the unit.

Teachers are excited about receiving a subscription to Time Magazine for kids.

Third Grade – Third grade will participate in Bravo with the Band this month. They will visit Heritage and enjoy listening to the band.

The students are excited about using science notebooks.

Fourth Grade – Started studying insects in Science.

Received a visit from someone who works for the local mosquito control.

Made Pasties in Social Studies using vegetables from the Hemmeter garden.

Fifth Grade – The students are very excited to participate in the vocabulary costume activity on Halloween, where they dress up as a vocabulary word.

#### All School Assemblies this Month

SVSU Theater Department

Author visit from Aaron Zenz. A third grader found illustrations by Mr. Zenz in their Social Studies book.

SVSU Nurses are teaching the Hemmeter students about eating healthy, washing hands, etc. They did 6 weeks with the lower-L and will do 6 weeks with upper-L.

The staff will contribute \$10 to HPTC as they have always been members of HPTC. Student Council elections are tomorrow.

#### VIII. Principal's Report: Jim Bailey

Hemmeter has adopted a program called "Great Expectations" after Westdale initiated it. They found the schools need common vocabulary for talking about good citizenship and a common expectation for all students.

Weekly the school does the following:

- 1- Classes recite the Pledge of Allegiance
- 2- Teachers recite their Teacher Creed to the class and in their staff meeting. It includes things like "I cherish every student." The staff has a chance to reflect on their vision of being a teacher and how they are doing at it.
- 3- Students recite their Student Creed. Molly Kelsey created the Student Creed after working with 11 teachers who attended the Great Expectations training.

There are 8 expectations for living: Classes discuss how to treat each other. Mr. Bailey uses these as part of his discussion when students come to his office for correction.

There are over 50 life principles. One is focused on each week, with a definition and quotes about it. "Commitment" was one he discussed with students signing up for Lego Robotics.

Students are practicing courtesy. Each class has a person assigned to greet visitors after they knock. The student introduces himself, and assists with the business in a way that minimizes interruptions for the class.

Sarah shared that her kids have come home very excited about the creed and told her about the door greeter, recited the expectations for living, and the importance of cheering others on.

These replace the "3 Be's." They are seeing behavior change because all the students are doing the same things.

#### NWEA testing has replaced AIMSWeb

Aimsweb only tested in the scope of the grade level, used a lot of class time, and was not effective for Hemmeter students who exceeded grade level content. Very little data was gained for our teachers.

NWEA has been in High School for two years and is at Hemmeter and White Pine this year. In the spring, 5<sup>th</sup> graders in the district will also use it. Testing will be done 3 times a year for our 1-5 graders. First Graders have headphones and lots of graphics to assist them. 1-4<sup>th</sup> grades do reading and math, with 5<sup>th</sup> graders also doing science. Because it is a scale for K-12, it can evaluate students beyond grade level boundaries, and you can compare your students' score to previous years. The test is adaptive so it gets harder when students get right answers and easier when they get it wrong, pulling from 80,000 questions. The test is able to find the student's

individual level, while the MEAP still tops at grade level. National norms are based on a 20,000 student sampling.

The test is 40+ questions. Some are multiplication, and there are questions where kids sort a list of answers into two groups by clicking and dragging them to answer. Students reported, "I like it. It was fun." Teachers told students they would see a mix of easy and hard questions.

The purpose of NWEA is to give the teachers information on where the student is today, so they can make lesson plans for tomorrow that address gaps. A first grade teacher can pull a small group of all the students who struggled with the "-at" word family, etc. A RIT score is given for each student. RIT reminds teachers the test helps them be Ready for Instruction Today. Parents will receive a report after the testing, but it will not be part of the report card.

Hemmeter wants to help each child reach their full potential, and this will help teachers adapt for the most advanced students, while still teaching concepts where students are struggling.

#### IX. New Business:

Mom to Mom Sale: Serina Ortega and Nicole Royer are organizing a Mom-to-Mom sale. First meeting is October 6 at 2:45, and more info is available on HPTC Facebook page.

IPad Purchase- Jennifer Jaffe: Scrip has accumulated a lot of money through the years that was intended to benefit the school. There is currently \$58,000, and SCRIP needs to maintain a working balance of \$23,000. There is a surplus of \$35,000, which should be used for our students. A committee met to determine the biggest needs for the school and decided playground equipment and iPads for the school would be the best use of this money. Playground equipment will be addressed later; tonight we discussed iPads.

CDI can provide 2 syncing/lockup stations that will keep iPads secure and will copy applications installed on the master to the rest of the set of iPads. The school would like two carts (\$2,300 each) to contain 32 iPads each, and 36 iPads now (with 3G, Retina scan, 32 GB, 1 year warranty) for a purchase price of \$18,632. In the future more iPads could be added to the collection. iPads would stay at school. Cases for iPads would be purchased separately out of technology budget.

Jim Bailey explained why these are needed:

- The school has a 32 station computer lab. This would allow more students in various classes to use internet technology. This is necessary for teachers to allow students to do more inquiry- and project-based instruction based on topics they want to research.
- Learning can be customized through apps and programs. They can pull out bigger groups (currently limited to 6) to do more advanced projects.
- Technology is the world we live in. College students use e-books.

Jim Bailey moved that we approve \$18,632 for iPads for student use in school. It was seconded by Josh Mosher, and passed with unanimous approval.

X. Adjourned at 7:18 pm.