

Hemmeter Parent Teacher Council

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

6:00 p.m. Teacher's Lounge

Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Jen Jaffe.

In Attendance: Jennifer Jaffe, Jenny Boelter, Jaime Huffman, Sarah Jane Deibel, Jim Bailey, Jill Rummler, Becky Mosher, Josh Mosher, Jill Allardyce.

Jen Jaffe:

Destination Imagination: Great job at regional competition, and 6 of 7 teams advanced to State. Thanks to Nali Kogulan, Jill Allardyce, and team managers. *SPARK* was phenomenal, as always. Thanks to the Committee heads and all volunteers.

Secretary's Report: Sarah Jane Deibel submitted January meeting minutes. Sarah Jane to add adjournment time. A motion was made by Sarah Jane to accept the minutes with that correction and seconded by Jen Jaffe.

Financial Report: Jenny Boelter shared the updated financial report.

Incoming funds: Papa John's fundraiser made about \$200. Barnes & Noble: \$1000 (Even with bad weather: Hopefully next year would be even better). Checks received from Meijer \$128 and Target \$167. Credit (refund of shipping) of \$287 for ipads.

HPTC paid for the following: Hot Chocolate day, prepaid 5th grade field trip to Loons in May, and SPARK. SPARK has \$463 left in budget before one outstanding bill is paid.

\$284 was spent on Student Council read-in supplies.

\$100 paid for Qdoba cards for DI fundraiser (Cards are received and available for purchase).

Principal's Report: Jim Bailey reported:

Hemmeter testing for 2015-16:

- About 160 kids tested for Hemmeter yesterday (all but about 15 were Kindergarteners). 45 Kindergarteners tested in. There will be more testing available in May since all the slots were filled on Tuesday. Mr. Bailey and Lisa Bartelt are working on letters and hope to notify families next week.
- Children who don't get admitted can go to a Psychologist for a full-scale test (info on all letters). Mr. Bailey adds a note for the closest ones to consider this option. Hemmeter administers an abbreviated version of an IQ test, while Psychologists will do full-scale test. Our testing has been pretty good at predicting success in the program, as very few kids have to exit the program.
- Question about possibility of doing split grade classrooms: Recently had a year where more kids came in and Mrs. Laurenz did a great job with a K/1 split. However, a split is hard to make work in our school system since curriculum and assessments are by grade, so we are leaning away from splits in Hemmeter. 7 more second graders will come next year, so our "small" classes will bump up a little to normal sizes. With deliberate marketing the school might get higher numbers, but

right now we are comfortable with the current student load. We need to fit the district's goal financially while keeping classes manageable.

March Book Madness (<http://marchbookmadness.weebly.com/>):

- Signed up as a school to participate in March Madness Book bracket. Competing books for 2014 and pre-2014 won by vote on the website then were put in the brackets based on results. Students got to fill out their brackets. This month, individuals and classes vote on-line to see which books win in March's bracket.
- We have the K-2 books in a bin for teachers (pulled from Zael and Hemmeter). Most teachers find two books paired together, read it to the students and then the kids decide which moves on – teacher votes online. Grades 3-5, most of the students get to actually vote on-line individually. Some teachers let the kids read reviews of the book or book trailers (2-min video online) to decide. You can view a map of registered schools online from around the world.

Destination imagination & Spark – Big thank you to the committees for great work.

Math theme week will be the last week before March 23rd – topic is The Rainforest. HPTC to provide about \$90 animal crackers for successfully completing challenge. 400 bags of crackers for Friday March 27, bought by Jen Jaffe.

District of distinction: District Administration Magazine's March issue lists the National 2015 Districts of Distinction. Saginaw Township Community Schools is one of the 62 selected! Our District has had dramatic gains at K-2 level which is carrying on into 3-5 grades. Multi-tiered NWEA testing and AIMSweb help identify which skills are missing so teachers can pull out small groups to work on specific skills. The district has moved Title 1 money to Sherwood and Westdale to proactively fix problems while students are young.

Faculty Report: Jill Rummler: not a lot to report due to Cold days, SPARK, and PD days. Teachers are busy with report cards.

- Kindergarten– Will attend a field trip to the Butterfly House and the da Vinci exhibit at the Midland Center for the Arts.

- 1st – Music Program – March 18th at 6:00 p.m.

- 2nd - Celebrating March is Reading Month!!! “Pop Open a Good Book” (with popcorn) will be on Friday, March 13th, “Hats Off to Reading” (bring a hat) will be on Friday, March 20th, and “Reading Celebration” will be on Friday, March 27th.

- 3rd – Starting Play dough Economics unit

- 4th – Tyler Berry and Samha Amin will be competing in the county spelling bee on March 5th. Good luck!

- Elissa Basil has been visiting our classroom as part of the Art Goes to School program. She will be presenting her fifth unit sometime in March, and she is doing an outstanding job teaching the students about art through the ages. Art Goes to School is sponsored by the Saginaw Art Museum, who provides training and art

lessons to parents to do in the classroom. Nicole Royer and Phyllis Meek-McCartney have also taught lessons to fourth and fifth grade students.

· 5th – The Wax Museum will be held on April 28th and 30th. They have just started their unit.

** Hemmeter Idol Assembly – Friday, March 13th

** SPARK Day was a hit! A big thank you to all of the families who made this day possible!

Book Fair (Jen Jaffe): no additional news.

Taco night (Jen Jaffe): in conversations with El Paso Grill (their nachos at SPARK day were amazing).

DI – Jill Allardyce:

6 of 7 teams made it to states. Friday April 17-18 at CMU is the State-wide celebration. Teams will do fundraising for 3 weeks to go to State expenses. Nali/Team Managers will be in charge of selling (100) Qdoba coupon cards. Will distribute a pre-order sheet to all students in school and release coupons when payment is received.

March 23 Monday is cut-off day for fundraising for State competitions. Then will look at HPTC's money (\$214 left in budget) plus fundraised money and divide remaining expenses among participant families (collected by Managers). Any funds collected after that point would help fund Globals if needed. Check will be mailed in April for \$660 for State fees. Need to write check before Spring Break. Decided not to sell at Fun Fair, but will promote with fliers/signs.

Box tops (Jen Jaffe): Collecting box tops with a drawing for fun fair tickets.

School Store: Rachel sent order forms last week for School store.

Spark was fantastic. Appreciated the calm hallways this year.

Fun Fair (Becky Mosher): Calm right now because a lot of people are helping, asking for status reports from volunteers. Businesses have helped run about half the games in the past, but they aren't available right now. Asking for volunteers through Sign-up Genius. Becky will make weekly fliers for help and repeat emails for on-line sign-ups. Josh pinned the announcement to the top of the HPTC facebook page. Jim Bailey can send out an email request/explanation through School Messenger.

Sign-up Genius is working well so it may become the standard tool for the school volunteer requests, including the beginning of the year volunteers. (Make a separate email address before initiating.) Will want to do a Technology Orientation as part of the welcome meeting next year, including Sign-up Genius and HPTC Facebook page.

Barnes & Noble was a success and we will repeat it next year with more marketing. Lisa Morford did a great job with her activities: The kids loved it, and they were simple, fun, & inexpensive. The money went straight to Mrs. Bugbee for library

purchases. Jenny said we could do it in January when people have Christmas gift cards to spend and in connection with teacher appreciation week.

Playground Refurbishment (Jaime Huffman): Ted has the shed lined up with a volunteer for pouring concrete. Have a volunteer wall-ball builder. Thanks!

Adjourned at 7:02

Next Meeting Wednesday April 8, 6:00 pm in the teachers' lounge