

**Hemmeter Parent Teacher Council**  
General Membership Meeting - Faculty Room  
Wednesday, January 7, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m by Jennifer Jaffe.

In Attendance: Jennifer Jaffe, Jenny Boelter, Sarah Jane Deibel, Jim Bailey, Jill Rummmler, Kelli Stricker, Jamie Barnes, Sarah Burke

November minutes were presented, and approved as published by Jennifer Jaffe (December meeting was cancelled).

**1. December Review**

Ipad Order (Jim Bailey): The iPads, ordered in October, are here now and preliminary programs installed. The supplying company had issues getting us what we ordered. They refunded some shipping fees as compensation, but we would not do business with them again. The cases were ordered for \$683.

Playground improvements: The Gaga Pit was installed quickly. Stencils arrived, but the weather was too cold to paint - will do in the Spring. Playground equipment is in use. The shed project will be reassessed in March. Per Mr. Christensen, we will need prep work to level the ground below the shed and/or pour concrete.

**\*looking for volunteers for the shed building project\***

School Store: Spent more on inventory than amount of money raised. There should be an additional sale soon. Store makes a small profit by the end of the year.

Campbells Labels: We were able to turn in points for two \$250 Visa Cards. These will be held by Jim Bailey for staff minor expenses (a few supplies for a class project, etc) that are too little to bother with a reimbursement process.

Box Tops: Check for \$2288.65 received per Jennifer Sederlund.

Any recommendations for next year based on our experience in Fall? None submitted.

**2. Spring upcoming events**

SPARK - Feb 27: More science classes than art currently. Received an art grant, so may need to add more art. Mathnasium donated \$150 to the school because of students that participated at their event - Thank them for the donation!

#### Destination Imagination - Feb 28 - Regional competition:

- Thanks to Jill Allardyce & Nali Kogulan, the parent volunteers running DI this year
- New T-Shirt design looks great.
- HPTC budgets \$800 for the expenses: \$900 registration for our teams, \$570 for Regional Tournament, usually helped with State tournament also. Smart Card profits plus HPTC have covered most of these expenses.
- How much money should HPTC give to DI? This is the most expensive club at Hemmeter, but it is a really good program. We fundraise money to provide opportunities for students.
- Jill Rummler said that over the years, the program has grown to include a lot more students. Sarah Jane Deibel said that DI demands a lot of time and energy from volunteers and students, but also has huge benefits in the skills & opportunities both adults and children receive. It seems appropriate to use more money to support a thriving program that is unique in this way.
- When do we stop helping? Globals? This is very expensive for a very few students. Opinions expressed included a willingness to help, but desire for the team members to work to earn money. Team building occurs as they work together. Possibly HPTC could offer a % of expenses each year or match an amount fundraised by the kids.
- Last year students applied for grants, earned \$1000 at their carwash, and were involved in other fundraising activities.
- Will offer Qdoba fundraiser to Nali for DI - \$100 investment brings potential \$900 profit through sale of Qdoba coupon cards which include free entrees.
- HPTC will plan to pay registration fees, regionals, state, and possibly part of global expenses.

#### Fun Fair - March 21(Kelli Stricker):

- How can we recruit more helpers?
- Jack Doyle is doing a video commercial for HPTC
- Photo booth is too expensive to use - we lost money on it before.
- Need a caricature artist - there is budget to pay a professional artist. Possibly get art students from SVSU or Delta? Jennifer Jaffe to suggest ideas to Moshers. Jim Bailey also checking with a friend.
- Kelli started working on the auction. She has usually done a tin can system. Moshers suggested a board with pockets that will have a set number of bidders. After the auction, they get together and count number of bidders & amount bid on each item. There is still support for tin can votes, or Kelli can choose.

**\*Volunteers needed - many individuals to train this year and take over next year in how to run one of the fun fair games, etc. Volunteers to count auction tickets appreciated as well. \***

Barnes & Noble Book Fair - Feb 14?: Jen Jaffe to set a date and choose in store activity to promote attendance.

### Spring Scholastic Book Fair - April 20-25

- the "Huge" book fair, set up in the gym all week
- Will continue a school dinner for social and fundraising purposes during book fair. Tacos instead of hot dogs (due to likeability and more filling dinner).

### Taco night to be held on Wed, April 22, for a long dinner window: 4:30-7:00?

- Serena Ortega & her father have volunteered to run it. Taco supplies from El Paso grill, tacos made here at school. Pay in advance (discount for helping with the count for dinner) or at the door.

### **3. Faculty Report- Jill Rummier:**

Kindergarten – Winter theme (Penguins & Snow). They are in the process of booking a field trip to Papa John's later this month or the beginning of February.

1st – Elf journals were a hit! The first grade students collected just over \$500.00 doing chores around the house. The boys and girls enjoyed shopping for gifts to donate to Toys for Tots. First grade is starting a writing unit on "how-to" articles.

2nd – Project Linus – Students are collecting and returning pop cans to purchase fleece material. With the money collected, the boys and girls will make no sew blankets for the Project Linus Foundation. This will be for Valentine's day and parent helpers are welcome. Second grade is also making bird treat recipes for Hemmeter's Tree-Top Café (The bird feeders in the trees outside 2nd grade windows).

3rd – Third grade just started a Native American unit of study. The boys and girls are currently making Native American masks. Third grade is also working on persuasive letter writing.

4th grade – Fourth grade had an excellent time at Hartley! This month the fourth grade students look forward to visiting the state capitol building. Mrs. Kelsey is meeting with 54 fourth and fifth grade students on Tuesdays and Thursdays during lunch to prepare for the spelling bee.

5th grade – Fifth grade is working on a Genius Hour project in which students choose a topic they are interested in, formulate a question about it, and then do the research to find the answers. Oral/visual presentations will be next week. The fifth grade did a great job with the Toys for Tots and food collection in December - it was very successful.

Student Council – Student council members will be making blankets to donate to Operation Support Our Troops.

### **4. Principal's Report: Jim Bailey:**

iPads are here (36) - Jim did the initial (manual) programing (30 min/each) but future additions will be made to one iPad and synced to the rest.

List Elementary in Frankenmuth offered to host some of our teachers and share ways to use iPads in the classroom

Gaga pit has been popular. Mr. Bailey has taught Hemmeter “house rules” in the classes. Students referee - The ref is always right.

Parent bookgroup meetings: Mindset, by Carol Dweck, to be divided into 3 weeks. The power of mindset (instead of praise & just being talented) to help individuals achieve. \$10 for book purchased through HPTC.

State Assessments: test has changed from MEAP (fall) to spring assessment MSTEP (Michigan Student Test for Educational Progress). Previously, students were tested in the fall over material learned the year before. The spring test covers the current grade. Grades 3-8 English/Lang Arts/reading/writing, 4 - Science, 5 - Social Studies.

- Testing on the computer allows an adaptive, unique testing experience, so there is a 3 week window for each grade/test. Students get different questions so there's no risk of answers “getting out” to later test-takers.
- Weiss opted to do paper test this year, but it is only allowed for one year. Mr. Bailey believes it is better to have the baseline start-up year (with any scoring dips) be alongside other schools in the district. The second year should be smoother.
- test includes more higher thinking. Also includes a classroom performance test: The teacher teaches a particular lesson and the next day the kids are tested.

#### **5. Discussion of Purpose of HPTC, Jen Jaffe:**

Are we “just a fundraising group”? Should we do a more active job of building community? Should we promote more opportunities for families to talk to each other?

- Comments shared: that parents at HPTC meetings are trusted to represent the parents who don't come. Minutes help to communicate the information to all parents. Facebook seems to help build a community of Hemmeter parents, with quick answers and info about school happenings. We plan events that use the money for social events, opportunities for students &/or families to come together. Presence of HPTC at Open House, etc. helps.
- Maybe a Dollar Social with cookies, or Pajama Movie at school would build connections?
- There are a lot of people already involved, Many committee chairs - a lot of good already happening. How do we involve more of the new families?

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 4, at 6:00 p.m. in the Staff Room**