

Hemmeter Parent Teacher Council
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, September 16, 2015
6:00 p.m. Ms. Lewis' Room

Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m by Jennifer Jaffe.

In Attendance: Jennifer Jaffe, Jenny Boelter, Jaime Huffman, Sarah Jane Deibel, Jim Bailey, Jill Rummeler, Rachel Chaltraw, Ted Christian III, Sarah Burke, Julie Weisenberger, Amy Denay, Venicat Kunadareddy

Secretary's Report:

- Sarah Jane Deibel submitted May meeting minutes. A motion was made by Rachel Chaltraw to accept the minutes and seconded by Jaime Huffman.

Financial Report:

- Jenny Boelter shared updated financial report. Current Year: SCRIP brought in \$1,673.93 over the summer in online orders. \$2,904.67 is carried over from last year's iPad and playground project to complete this fall. 2014-2015 Summary: We earned \$9,000 more than planned for budget last year, and spent \$3,000 less than budgeted.

President's Report: Jennifer Jaffe

- *Budget Surplus:* Because of careful spending and extra funds raised, we have a \$12,000 surplus from last year. Can we form a parent committee to advise how much we should keep, including a parent accountant, to review how much should be spent and structure for spending? Jim Bailey & teachers have a wish list of most needed things to enrich school to add to parent discussion on spending. How much money do we set aside for a rainy day? Jen Jaffe to look for volunteers.
- *Yogurt Yeti:* Should we repeat this fundraiser? There was some confusion in which sales were from Hemmeter and we may not have made much money. Do a survey (facebook?) to ask parent opinion?

Principal's Report: Jim Bailey

- *Welcome* to three new teachers - lucky to have three great additions. 5 - Nicol Howald does all of the Technology Professional Development for the district 3- Kelly Hendrick - was very successful in Bay City, but lives near here and so came to Hemmeter. 4- Stephanie Smith - first year teacher, but amazing - the staff is very impressed.
- *Donalyn Miller*, The Book Whisperer, is coming to Hemmeter, Mon-Tues. Donalyn is in the top 5 teachers and researchers on reading world-wide and speaks at almost every national conference. Hemmeter has already implemented many of her strategies, including Book Doors, Locker Tags, 40-book challenge, genre studies, and graffiti walls. Each grade has a 2-hour slot to work with Ms. Miller who will model effective teaching methods with a group of students on Monday and Tuesday, as well as a teacher Q&A after school. Teachers will have subs in the

classroom so they can fully observe and learn from Ms. Miller. She will be presenting to parents on Monday, September 21st from 4:00-4:45 p.m. on how to grow a life-long reader and foster independent reading. Mr. Bailey has connections to her through the Nerdy Book Club, and Title 2A funds (PD dollars) are paying for her visit.. Mr. Bailey will put together a thank you basket for her, including some Hemmeter goodies from Rachel Chaltraw/School Store.

- *Parent Book Club*: Simplicity Parenting - recommended by Kari Keith. Book group will meet on October 1 & 15.

- *MAISA Writing Units*:

Writing was identified as an area to grow in, as Hemmeter scored 82% proficient in the last year of MEAP. Each grade had its own curriculum for writing, but it needed to be better aligned to build on previous years without repetition as kids move up the grades. MAISA writing units were implemented last year and teachers are seeing a big improvement in student writing. MAISA Units are aligned with common core, have K-5 vertical alignment, and include narrative, informational, and opinion/persuasive styles.

- Covers 4 Ws of Writing: Writing process, Writing Traits (ideas, voice, etc.), Writing Workshop (routines of writing classroom), Writing Modes (purposes). Embracing all of these will provide "rich writing lives for students."

Faculty Report: Jill Rummler:

- Mrs. Rummler brings a report from each of the grades to our monthly meeting. After only 7 days of school, all teachers are focused on getting procedures and routines down. Next time there will be more to report. Thank you for the teacher appreciation treats. lunch? Goodies?

- Used Book Sale is next Thursday & Friday, organized by Luann Bugbee. Jaime Huffman to ask for volunteers on Sign-up Genius. Last year's book collection for READ Association generated a surplus of books for the book sale. Proceeds will be used to purchase shelving for the library to hold more books.

New Business:

- *Recycling Program* - Jim Bailey reported: A recycling program was suggested by parents in last year's survey. Recycling used to be provided for free, but now has a cost \$35/month during months used. Three 96-gallon bins are provided to the school with weekly pick-up of paper and cardboard. We can model for students that we are good stewards with Earth's resources. Nicol Howald (5) ran the program at Weiss. Jim to ask teachers if they want to choose their own or have HPTC purchase room bins.

- *Propose \$350/ year* be paid for recycling program (plus expenses for initial classroom bins if needed) by Jennifer Jaffe, Second by Jaime Huffman. Motion carried unanimously.

- *Homecoming Float* - Jen Jaffe reported: Leuenbergers have built the homecoming float for the last 7 years, but this is their last year. They will build the float framework this year and need a separate crew to do the finishing on Sept 27 and Oct 3 (New York theme). Parade is Oct 9. Ideally someone would train under them this year before taking over next year.

- *Thank you* to Julie Weisenberger & Laura Fiore for managing SCRIP, with Marti Lisik, and Connie Brown helping. Changes were made to the SCRIP program last year - there won't be after school sales, but orders can be sent to school or placed on-line. Additionally there are 700

vendors available online for SCRIPnow, where you can purchase scrip while you are shopping, and then pay with it at checkout. Updates to webpage info to be sent to Mr. Bailey.

- *School Store* - Rachel Chaltraw: New T-shirt designs were created over the summer and will be available shortly. Samples can be viewed in the office to check sizes and orders will be placed on-line on Sand-Lot. Paper order forms available in the office if needed. Rachel will post ordering information on HPTC facebook page and Mr. Bailey will send out a school message.
- *Shed* - Ted Christian: Ted is almost done building the shed and will start siding soon. Jen Jaffe to ask for volunteer to landscape around shed: dig out grass and put in weed barrier and plants to keep weeds from growing up the siding.
- Thanks to Mrs. Rummler for refreshments.
- Sarah Burke confirming *Staff Appreciation Budget*: Budget includes about \$25/month for treats, and gift cards for 29 people for birthday recognition.
- Jaime Huffman to send *room parent* volunteer names to teachers. Will also send Sign-up Genius information by flier and email to parents for volunteering in the school..

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Teacher's Lounge.