

McKenzie PTA Meeting  
April 10, 2012

1. 9:19 call to order
2. Approval of March, 2012 minutes
3. Faculty Representative Report – Jessica Torf. Kindergarten studying properties in science and writing numbers scrolls in math. First graders are studying weather and really enjoying the 2<sup>nd</sup> Step program. Second graders are studying the life cycles of meal worms. Third graders are studying astronomy and are being flexibly grouped for math. Heritage day for them is 4/25. Fourth graders have ecology unit, are studying electricity, biomes and regions of the U.S. and decimals. They have Cogats also. Scantron and safety assembly for grades 1-4.
4. Principal's Report – Dr. Denise Welter
  - a. Thank you to PTA for enrichment. This month's artist was fantastic. Kids were thrilled.
  - b. Child safety assembly for grades 1-4 with Police Department's Community Safety Rep. Greasy. Kids need to see her as a purposeful officer. She also held a staff meeting for school safety procedures which was very helpful to district. Trying to get her to give an internet safety presentation in future.
  - c. Fire Chief came to school to hold a severe weather drill. Learned about severe weather: it moves from West to East and usually occurs between 3 – 7pm. If there is a red poster on front door at pick-up, parents should come inside and proceed to auditorium and wait til severe weather has passed. Kids will be in school assuming severe weather positions in safe areas.
  - d. Parent Outdoor Ed meeting is being held. Form and checks due at end of month.
  - e. Science Night tomorrow night. Focus on characteristic of dealing with uncertainty. Science Night shows kids that there is more than one right answer. Need to do this more.
  - f. Kindergarten – the 5<sup>th</sup> section teacher was released because it can't be guaranteed that there will be a 5<sup>th</sup> section next year. More have to register.
  - g. Looping. Patrick Moroschan, who currently teaches 1st grade, will loop with class to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade next year. He will be taking Camille Bourisaw's place. Parents had choice in looping. Colleen Chick will then move to teach 1<sup>st</sup> grade.
  - h. Kindergarten lottery – working parent doesn't pre-qualify. Is a blind lottery. Letters with lottery results mail 4/27.
  - i. Arbor Day. Village dedicates a tree every year on Arbor Day. This year McKenzie gets one dedicated on property. Ceremony on Tues, May 1 @ 10am.
  - j. Conferences on 4/19-20. Early release on 4/19 and no school on 4/20. On 4/19, 4<sup>th</sup> graders will have lunch at school then go to HMS for music preview. Will be back at McKenzie @ 2:15 for pick-up.
5. President's Report – Jennifer Konz-Alt. Executive Board slate for next year approved:

President-Elect – Michele Irvin; Secretary – Peggy Brink; Asst. Treasurer – Karen Hirata; VP Communications – Jenny Hall-Fink; VP Fundraising – Amy Wolfe; Asst. VP Enrichment – Jen Finger.

## 6. Officer Reports

- a. President-Elect – Kirsten Wilson.
  - Earth Week activities announced. Each class is getting a plant
  - Slating for general board still going on. Need McClubs Chair. Hope to have every position filled by May meeting.
- b. VP Room Parents – Karen Dekker.
  - Staff appreciation week 4/30-5/4. Committee formed to plan activities. Theme is Olympics. Kids will be making medals and thinking of Olympic quotes for teachers. Student Council making post-it holders for staff. Daily treats provided by room parents. Raffle where everyone is winner. Need \$5 gift card donations for this. Extreme makeover of lounge including re-painting. Sign-up on-line for staff luncheon at Doreen Rothstein's house – 11:30 – 2pm. Parents are welcome.
  - Bike to HMS 5/9. Pam Fowler organizing
- c. Treasurer – Michele Irvin. New Treasurer starts 6/30. June 6 last day to submit reimbursement requests.

## 7. Committee Report

- a. PLN – Sabine Scholz. Still need a couple of volunteers for Science Night which is 4/11.
- b. FAN – Kathy Freedman. Three upcoming events: 1) Protecting Student Athletes. For parents of child athletes. At Central School in Glencoe on 4/17; 2) Paradox of Choice – Why More Is Less. What is it in our current lifestyles that leaves us dissatisfied. At North Shore Country Day School on 5/1 @ 7pm; 3) Screening of Miss Representation. Is study of women's portrayal in the media. At Regina on 5/7 @ 6:30pm, discussion @ 8pm.
- c. Outdoor Gardens – Lara Waechtler. Lots of weeds due to early spring. Need weeding volunteers. Outdoor classroom in garden starting 4/23. Sign-up on line for that.
- d. D39 Foundation
  - Virtual Wall of Honor on website – is a fundraising effort. Can donate \$39 in someone's name then a virtual brick goes up and recipient gets a certificate
  - WJH science lab will mostly be funded by district, but will need extras. Committee of D39 Foundation members and community members being formed to address this.
  - Circus scheduled for 9/20/12 from 4 – 6:30pm. Comes every other year.
  - Rahm Emanuel is District's Citizen's Award recipient.

## 8. Adjournment 10:35.