

## **Holmes Jr. High PTA General Meeting Minutes**

*October 23, 2014*

**In attendance:** Anne Finkelston, Joy Klineberg, Kerri Sortor, Rachel Gunn, Heather Wade, Michael Dufresne, Madelyn Schwartz, Emily Ault, Sara Johnson, Natalie Lindquist, Eric Hays, Ellen Shields, Tracy Skinner, Bob Poppenga, Navi Bairis, Ashly Nelson, Jean Kennedy, Karen Hamilton, Lisa Buehler, Stephanie Moss, and Megan Rabin

### **1. Welcome and Approval of October Minutes**

### **2. Treasurer's Report, Tracy Skinner**

Tracy reported on deposits and checks written. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report for Aug. 1, 2014 through Oct. 22, 2014. Motion approved.

### **3. Unfundraiser, Joy Klineberg**

We are half way to our goal of \$15,000. One of the great things about the Unfundraiser is that there is something for everyone. She has a \$10 donation and a \$1,000 donation. It seems like 90% of the people are using the blue envelope.

### **4. ASB Student Leadership, Mr. Dufresne**

Student Leadership has 10 committees the kids are divided into. Some activities leadership is coordinating include:

- Breast cancer awareness
- Fight for Liv Foundation – they are raising money by collecting spare change
- A new student lunch was held today for any student new to Holmes
- Cookie dough will be in on the Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>. The fundraiser raised \$2000 for athletics
- There will be a dance in December
- Working with the City – the kids will read proclamations

### **5. Social Studies Presentation, Mr. Dufresne**

Social Studies teachers are doing a lot of work with primary source materials. They are teaching kids "Close Reading" (handout provided). Mr. Dufresne showed slides providing examples. Also using SOAPs – a primary source think sheet.

### **6. Counselor's Report, Ashley Nelson**

- Quarter 1 progress reports were a week late due to network outages.
- Report cards are out next week
- In 7<sup>th</sup> grade counselors are stressing organization
- In October students heard presentations on mistreatment and appropriate behavior
- Parent Information Night was not well attended
- Suicide prevention is being presented to all classes
- Yesterday Holmes Student Ambassadors training – 66 students – picked from different social groups. Kids with social power. Trained on effective techniques on how to handle situations. PTA Funded. Thanks!

**7. Teacher's Report, Heather Wade**

- School read the book Wonder in October. There has been great feedback. So far they have 350 precepts.
- Staff is planning a Chili Cookoff on the teacher work day. They would like to invite hospitality folks to the cookoff.

**8. Vice Principal's Report, Jean Kennedy**

- Deanna Leveque is working with the Art classes to make 100 bowls for soup for a local charity event.
- On Friday Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> students may wear costumes to school.
- Volleyball season is over and Basketball just started.
- Chromebooks – hopefully kids can get on soon. By Oct. 30-31 kids will be signed up for Google accounts
- Thank you to the PTA for the teacher grants.
- Holidays – Nov. 11 – Veteran's Day, Nov. 24-28 – Thanksgiving, Jan. 26 – Teacher Workday
- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip is on the last Weds. of school. Day on the Green will be the same day.
- Recently had a music assembly with the Orchestra, Band, Choir and Jazz Band.

**9. Committee Reports – SPAC, Anne Finkelston**

- SPAC = Superintendent Parent Advisory Committee
- Strategic Playbook – open communications, local control funding model – money now goes to local district with a few strings attached for ELL, foster children, homeless and Title I.
- Strategic plan items embraced in LCAP
- Needs for counselors – discussion of what their job is for
- Meal plan policy – letter sent home when balance is below \$15
- Discussed late start
- Outdoor education - \$30,000 given – number depends on number of subsidized school lunch students
- More counselors needed because kids in crisis
- Seth's law
- Climate discussion

**10. New Business**

- The City is holding a Creepy Carnival Dance for teens.
- Directory currently with the leadership class and should be distributed soon
  - Kudos to Judy for all her help!

**11. Adjourn** – Next meeting is Thursday, December 11, 2014, 7:00pm at the Holmes Library.