



Home and School Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2015

6:30 p.m.

Elmwood Elementary School

ATTENDEES:

Officers: Molly Carroll, Alison Giese, Rachel Schaar and Colleen Tadych

Staff: Associate Principal Jaime Veal, Amy Stempniewski, Katie Jeske, Cynthia Colden, Christine Stelman, Colleen Korom, Erica Oswald, Michelle Breitenfeldt

Parents: Kara Erchull, Tracy G., Jill Winkler, Marie Collins, Pam Breitigam, Kathy Quandt

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION/ CONCLUSIONS
Call to order	Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.
Review/Approve Minutes	Motion by Marie Collins to approve November 18, 2014 Home and School Meeting Minutes; seconded by Kara Erchull; minutes approved.
Notes from Co-Presidents Molly Carroll and Colleen Tadych	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colleen Tadych mentioned that there are only two more meetings. At March meeting, nominations will be taken for one of the Co-President positions and the Treasurer position. Voting takes place at the May meeting.
Notes from Vice Principal Jaime Veal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jaime Veal gave an update on safety practices at Elmwood. There will be a new district safety committee, which will include representation from every building next year. She will be Elmwood's representative. The committee wants to look at practices and procedures, to see what the district is doing well and what needs to improve. Recently, two safety consultants came to Elmwood and looked extensively through the building and at the safety plans (such as fire drill and tornado drill plans). They were impressed with Elmwood's anti-bullying program (which includes the SNAP boxes in the hallways; and Royce and Jaime's effort to go to all classrooms to discuss bullying and getting teachers to talk about bullying to their students). The consultants also felt visitor procedures were good. As the Elmwood representative, Jaime will work on Elmwood's crisis plan – who would call for buses, who would attend to medical needs, etc. in an emergency. She will then take that back to the committee. This year, magnetic strips were added to all doors to lock automatically in case of a lockdown. Jaime has also checked that all classrooms have tornado and fire plans displayed properly. Jaime is looking into teachers wearing vests at recess time so students know exactly where teachers are at all times if needed. Jaime introduced teacher Erica Oswald, who is a member of the Family Connections Building Leadership Team (BLT). BLTs were created this year and include teams on staff culture, family connections and student recognition culture. Erica discussed ideas the committee has to better connect families and teachers - such as Reading Literacy Jammies night or a pasta dinner. They will also encourage staff to attend Home and School meetings to meet families. She read a report about what each grade level is doing (see attachment). The members of the Family Connection Team include Erica Oswald, Katie Jeske, Katie Leech, Maria Brunner, Andrea Hauser and Alison Burchus. Colleen Tadych suggested adding an agenda item for a Family Connections report at each meeting and Erica said a representative from the committee would attend each meeting.

Treasurer's Report	<p>Notable changes since our last meeting:</p> <p>REVENUE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We received our check from Box Tops for the fall collection for \$2,896.36 • We received reimbursement from Wilderness weekend and earned \$99.00 • Shop Until You Drop generated \$1,057.00 in revenue, but custodial fees still need to be paid out of that amount. <p>EXPENSES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A few more expenses came through from last year's High Interest Day <p>YTD (as of 1/20/15): Revenue = \$13,089.39 Expenses = \$5,179.04 Current checking account balance = \$49,354.30 Available cash = \$26,428.96</p> <p>Michelle Breitenfeldt asked whether the Cart Mart was still running. At this time it is not because there was no volunteer to run it. Earlier in the school year, Royce brought up the possibility of fifth and sixth grade students running it. Molly Carroll will follow up with Royce.</p> <p>Cindy Colden said that in the past, Home and School bought CDs of the typing program software "All The Right Type" that were sold to families at cost. She said it was very helpful for students in learning to type. Home and School will look into offering that again and selling it at the beginning of the school year.</p>
Past Events	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. All School Skate – Thursday, Nov. 13, 2014 Skate night was well attended! b. Mr. Lindner's State of the School Address – Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2014 (It was before the November Home and School meeting). Those in attendance felt it was very informative and Royce said it will continue next year. c. Movie Night - Friday, Nov. 21, 2014 Good movie! d. Market Day Pick-Up – Friday, Dec. 5, 2014 and Jan. 16, 2015 December funds (\$157) went to first grade and January funds (\$126) went to second grade. e. Shop Until You Drop – Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014 The fundraiser was well attended and many vendors said they would come again next year. The bake sale revenue was a little lower than last year. Volunteer help was good. f. Cookie Walk – Monday, Dec. 22, 2014 Over 75 families donated 2 dozen cookies each and they were set out for teachers to pick out. Extra teachers were given to Eisenhower teachers and the fire department. Teachers in attendance at meeting said they were very appreciative. g. Hot Cocoa Surprise – Friday, Jan. 9, 2015 Home and School coordinated a hot cocoa cart for teachers and staff to enjoy at the end of the week.
Upcoming Events	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pack 38 Carnival – Friday, Jan. 23, 2015 Home and School charters Cub Scouts. Half of proceeds from carnival go to Honor Flight.

	<p>b. Market Day Pick-Up – Fri, Feb. 13 and Fri, March 13, 2015 February revenue goes to third grade and March revenue goes to fourth grade.</p> <p>c. Teacher/Staff Raffle – Monday, Feb. 23 – Friday, Feb. 27, 2015 Kathy Quandt sent out first e-mail requesting raffle items/experiences from teachers and staff. She has received nine replies so far. She encouraged teachers and staff to contribute an experience. New ideas were also discussed.</p> <p>d. All School Skate – Thursday, Feb. 26, 2015 (March date cancelled)</p>
Other Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam Breitigam gave an update on the spring dance. It will be held April 25 from 6-8 p.m. The theme is “Me and My Special Someone” (Father/daughter, Mother/son or other special adult) and it will be a formal dance with the theme of Hollywood Night at the Movies. There will be a DJ and photo opportunities. Cost will be \$10 per person or \$15 at door. There will be a form for tickets that families can fill out and return to school. Tickets will be delivered to teachers to distribute before dance. Refreshments will include popcorn and water (Pam has a popcorn maker). She will also ask parents to sign up to bring treats. At March meeting, Pam will have sign-ups ready. • 2nd grade received \$126 for Market Day profits. • For Terracycle, 75 items were collected for the Elmer Glue’s brigade. It didn’t make the 100 bottles needed for revenue, but it was a good effort. The Elmer glue collection is finished, but we will continue to collect Scotch tape and dispensers. The main collection box will be in hallway. • High Interest Day meeting on Thursday. New members are welcome. • We are working with Matty’s to make sure more Elmwood families know about the loyalty program and to ask for the special Elmwood scan. An idea was brought up that maybe they could add a note to the basket that has the QR code that says “Elmwood families ask your server for the Elmwood QR code.” There will be an opportunity for Matty’s check-in practice at upcoming Home and School events and possibly a teacher/staff meeting. • Kathy Quandt is working on a Kwik Trip car wash card fundraiser. She also is coordinating next month’s Eat and Earn restaurant.
Open Floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Box Tops committee is working on a joint contest with Labels for Education. For the fall Box Tops contest, the top class received a pizza party and teacher basket (filled with school supplies). The top two families received front row seats at a future Elmwood event. Marie Collins reminded parents to label bags of Box Tops with student’s name and teacher’s name. Bags can be dropped off in Home and School box or with teacher. The next contest will probably be during the month of February. Look for specific dates in Paw Prints.
Next Meeting	Tuesday, March 17 at 6:30 p.m.
Adjourned	A motion to adjourn was made at 7:43 p.m. by Cindy Colden and seconded by Kathy Quandt

Assignments:		
Task	Assigned To	Due Date
Follow up with Royce about Cart Mart	Molly Carroll	Feb. 15
Look into possibility of buying typing software to sell to families	Home and School Exec. Committee	March 1

January Updates from the Classroom

(gathered by the Family Connections Building Leadership Team and presented at the Jan. 20, 2015 Home and School meeting)

K – Kindergartners are learning to use their Superpowers (reading strategies) to become independent readers. They are also learning how to retell stories with their reading partners by using the words and pictures. During Writers' Workshop they have learned how to write like a Scientist by making observations and writing down the facts. They have also been writing True Stories about themselves making sure to write their stories in the proper sequence. Soon they will begin writing How To books. In math they have finished the domain of counting and cardinality. They have learned how to tell addition and subtraction stories and write number sentences to go with their stories.

1 – The first graders have been thinking of topics they are experts on and writing all about books that include chapters, non-fiction text features, beginnings and endings. It's fun to hear and see what topics they are experts on!

2 – The second graders are focusing on nonfiction expert writing and working to make their writing stronger by adding craft moves from mentor texts and preparing to publish for our upcoming writing celebration.

3 – Third graders are wrapping up their opinion writing unit and their series reading unit. They are getting excited for the Writing Celebration to recognize all they have accomplished this year in writer's workshop!

4 – Fourth graders have spent 2nd quarter learning about the Native American Tribes of Wisconsin. They conducted research reports and created artifacts. Groups made tribe books and presented in front of the class.

5 – 5th grade has the opportunity to attend a financial and life skill field trip called Junior Achievement Biz Town. We are scheduled to go February 27th. Leading up to this we have been working with kids on specific skills so that they can run and operate a business.

6 – Sixth graders are continuing to work hard during writer's workshop by writing informational books on a topic that they consider themselves to be an expert on! As a grade we will be having a celebration in the Monet at the end of January where students will be bringing one writing piece from our first three units to share with parents and peers. In social studies the students are using their collaboration and communication skills during project based learning.

Band - The band students had a very successful first concert in December! We are continuing to learn new notes and music on our instruments and are starting to get ready for the "Band Olympics" which take place during our rehearsals in the beginning of March.

Phy Ed - Elmwood students will begin their jump rope unit in physical education class. In addition to starting jump rope, students will have the opportunity to participate in Jump Rope for Heart which is held every year. Last year Elmwood students raised over \$14,000 dollars for the American Heart Association. Thanks for all your support/donations and I look forward to another successful year!