



Home and School Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2015

6:30 p.m.

Elmwood Elementary School

ATTENDEES:

Officers: Alison Giese, Rachel Schaar and Colleen Tadych

Staff: Principal Royce Lindner, Associate Principal Jaime Veal, Kim Ivers, Laura Bergunde, Andrea Hauser, Maria Brunner, Katie Leech, Melanie Gearhart, Amy Stempniewski, Colleen Korom

Parents: Theresa Sebestyen, Pam Breitigam, Cathy Boerner, Ann Szefflinski, Tracy G., Tonia Schmeier

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION/ CONCLUSIONS
Call to order	Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.
Review/Approve Minutes	Motion by Cathy Boerner to approve Jan. 20, 2015 Home and School Meeting Minutes; seconded by Tracy G.; minutes approved.
Notes from Co-President Colleen Tadych	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colleen said Cubs on the Prowl has been in May the last two years, but it will be moved to September this year as a kick-off event (probably the third Friday in September). • Colleen said a parent (who has now moved out of state) created a new logo for Home and School. By show of tally marks, parents in attendance voted for which logo design they preferred. • The Kindergarten Playdate position is open.
Notes from Principal Royce Lindner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Royce said they are scheduling the Badger Exam testing (WI version of the Smarter Balance test) for 3rd through 6th grades in math and reading for the end of April through May. He will communicate the dates to families as soon as possible and it would be best to have as many students in school for those times, so he encouraged parents to try not to schedule non-necessary appointments for those days. • The last MAP testing comes up at the end of May. • There are no set spring conferences for parents. Parents or teachers can request conferences if needed.
Notes from Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers gave an update of what is going on in each grade level. See the last page of notes for all updates!
Treasurer's Report	<p>Notable changes since our last meeting:</p> <p>REVENUE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We received \$95 from Qdoba Eat and Earn • \$1000 was raised from the Box Tops contest • Target program is changing from Feb. to Jan, so just this school year as program changes, we get an extra disbursement amount • Teacher/Staff Raffle earned \$1,100 • There is a new line for Amazon Smile – you can use your Prime membership; There will be a link in Paw Prints <p>EXPENSES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$8,300 under budget, but there are some big ticket items still to pay for such as 6th grade graduation and video conferences (which is billed to us by the District at the end of the school year) <p>YTD (as of 3/17/15): Revenue = \$16,400.63 Expenses = \$5,497.70 Current checking account balance = \$51,810.88 Available cash = \$29,740.20</p>

	<p>In budget next year, we would like to add a line item to the budget called Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO) that would give equal amount to each grade for in-house field trips.</p> <p>Jaime Veal has contacts for arts from her previous school (they received art grant funding) if needed for future Artist in Residence ideas.</p> <p>Sixth grade graduation money – Royce said he and a parent of a sixth grader from last year are looking at options for purchasing a bench (\$840 available)</p>
Past Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Market Day Pick-Up – Friday, Feb. 13, 2015 February funds went to third grade and raised \$186. b. Teacher/Staff Raffle – Feb. 23 – 27, 2015 Thank you to everyone that participated in the raffle. Teachers and staff are coordinating with winners to get prizes or experiences to them. c. All School Skate – Feb. 26, 2015 Highest attended skate night with 157 skaters! We will receive \$75 from Incredi-Roll in earnings from the evening. d. Box Top/Campbell’s Soup Label Contest Mrs. Brunner’s first grade class won the Box Tops contest and Mrs. Korom’s kindergarten class won the Campbell’s Labels contest. Each classroom received a basket of classroom supplies from Home and School for their efforts and will receive a class pizza party.
Upcoming Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Market Day – Friday, March 13 and April 17, 2015 March funds will go to fourth grade and April funds will go to fifth grade. b. Spring Musical – Friday, March 27, 2015 Colleen Tadych is working with Twins Flowers on a flower sale for the musical. Ms. Lemon will e-mail the order form to all families involved with the musical. Pam Breitigam suggested also offering decorated cookies from Slice (located in Muskego) for families to purchase as gifts. For next year, Pam suggested an idea of selling shout-outs from parents (parents write notes and pay for them and they are sent back stage to students). Cathy Boerner added another suggestion for next year of selling ads in program. Royce said parent Craig Miller has been unbelievable with helping with the sound and lighting for the musical. He has been working every day with students to teach them how to program light boards and work the audio system. Royce said he has been awesome working with the kids! Thank you! c. Book Fair – April 20-24, 2015 The theme for the spring Book Fair is “Under the Sea.” At the spring book fair, students don’t receive a free book from Home and School, but they still do receive 20% off all purchases. d. Spring Dance “Me and My Speical Someone” – April 25, 2015 Pam Breitigam created a sign-up sheet for volunteers – to help set up the day of the event, as well as working at the event. Alison Giese said she will help Pam get the volunteer sign-up set up in SignUp Genius and will also put it in Paw Prints. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. There will be glow sticks for sale, as well as activities for kids (signing stars and stamping craft). Refreshments will be in gym. There will be popcorn, juice and baked goods (there will be sign-up for baked goods also). e. Staff Appreciation Week is on the calendar! Alison Giese is coordinating the week’s activities.

Other Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theresa Sebestyen gave update on High Interest Day, which is June 5, 2015. On Thursday, packets will be handed out to students; they will be due before spring break. There will be a lot of new workshops and interesting things to try. • Tonia Schmear said Market Day sales were a little lower this month - \$96; Fifth grade receives funds next month. • Cathy Boerner asked about Wilderness Resort fundraiser. She would be willing to head up Country Springs Fundraiser instead (since Wilderness fundraiser has not received great response the last few years). • Kwik Trip car wash fundraiser due March 19.
Open Floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cathy Boerner talked about a children's book written by a friend about living organ donation. The author is starting visits at schools and doing free author visits to talk to classrooms (30 minute talk). She also offers 3 hour interactive talk for \$150 (includes discussion about organ donation and how she wrote book). Royce will take information to teachers and see what their interest is.
Next Meeting	Tuesday, May 19 at 6:30 p.m.
Adjourned	A motion to adjourn was made at 7:32 p.m. by Cathy Boerner and seconded by Theresa Sybestyen.

March Updates from the Classroom

*(Gathered by the Family Connections Building Leadership Team
and presented at the March 17, 2015 Home and School meeting)*

Kindergarten:

In math, Kindergarteners are learning about measurement including using words such as; shortest, longest, least, most, full, and empty to make comparisons. In reading they are discovering the difference between fiction and non-fiction books as they continue to use their SuperPower reading strategies to find facts while they read non-fiction books. They recently enjoyed a wonderful field trip to the Wehr Nature Center where they learned all about tapping Maple syrup from the Maple trees. Many children then wrote a "How to" book about their experience.

First Grade:

The first graders are enjoying the spring weather and have begun discussing different signs of spring through making rainbows. They also did some writing about their favorite color and tied it to writer's workshop by giving "reasons" for why it is their favorite. They have been working on zooming in on their characters during reader's workshop and learning about how to describe the character through feelings and traits.

Second Grade:

2nd grade has been working very hard in their book clubs as they are getting to know characters in a series and comparing their character across series. Their opinion writing has really taken off as they are giving reasons, examples, and even comparing and contrasting to provide a stronger argument. Way to go 2nd grade!!

Sixth Grade:

In sixth grade we are continuing our study of narrative writing but moving on from personal narratives to apply similar skills to the genre of historical fiction. Sixth graders also made their course selections for next year's transition to middle school which built up the excitement for our May visit to Eisenhower!

Phy Ed:

Students in physical education class recently finished their gymnastics unit where they learned about transfer of weight, jumping and landing, as well as tumbling skills. The 5 & 6 grade students worked incredibly hard to use these skills to put together and perform a gymnastics routine. This week students are starting their paddleball unit. The 5 & 6 grade students will be participating in a round robin paddleball tournament within their classes and the younger students will be participating in daily games to work on their forearm hit and serving techniques.

Orchestra:

Orchestra is busy preparing for String Fest, where we will be performing with orchestra members from the entire school district, grades 5 through 12. Probably our favorite piece right now is "Spring" by Antonio Vivaldi. A few orchestra students will be representing Elmwood at Discover New Berlin, this Saturday, at Eisenhower. We will be providing the musical entertainment in the cafeteria from 10:30 until 11:00 am.