
In Attendance

Sarah and Abbi Hess, Ashley Welter, Andrew Bolthouse, Justine Rinehart, Beth Bobeldyk, Lisa and Ava Schweigel, Anna Ndelekwute, Ryleigh Schnell, Suzanne Watters, Monica Boyer, Chloe Henningsen, Renae Drey, Abby Leuhmann, Emily Richerts, Darin Adams, Randy Husted, Mindy Kramme, Jenna Flugum.

Orchard Hill Student Leaders – The Tree Girls

- The Tree Girls, a small group of 5th grade students, came to speak about the trees and buddy benches project they have been working on over the last year. They are looking to make this a leadership job this year and a 6th grade tradition. Would like to do a Jolly Ranchers sale for 25 cents each to raise money. Want to engrave one of the benches to remember Ava and Amari, former students who passed away when the 5th graders were in kindergarten. Asking POWWER for \$60.56 for the purchase of Jolly Ranchers and cost of engraving on the bench. If not enough funds are raised, the proposed cost of a single bench is \$447.
- Interested in purchasing trees including red oak, yellow wood, sugar maple, and apple to plant on the school grounds. Have begun a grant application process to help cover the cost (grants range from \$500-2,500). They also visited with Jordan's Nursey to discuss tree care after planting.

Principal's Corner (Andrea Christopher)

- Set a wildly important goal (WIG) this year to raise math proficiency to 77-78% by January. Goal has been met! Students will continue to work on goal setting and tracking their lead measures.
- Habit 5 (seek first to understand, then be understood) is the habit of the month. Students are learning how to be better listeners and communicate better.
- It's National School Counselors Week and we will be celebrating our counselor, Mrs. Moeller!
- Holding on the outdoor classroom right now due to bid prices increasing. Lowest bid came in from Failor Hurley Construction at \$29,700. There was a question about whether we would consider doing a phase 1 (concrete) and phase 2 (wood pergola) of the project. 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th grades are willing to contribute \$1,000 each from their grade-level funds from this year to put toward the project. This is in addition to a private donation amount and funds from POWWER.

Updates & Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's report – \$17,356 in checking and \$43,385 in grade-level funds for this year. We are overspending this year to account for last year's budget surplus. Currently on track with the budget.
- Request from Kindergarten teachers for Todo Math for \$675 for remainder of the school year. Todo provides a curriculum based on the U.S. Common Core State Standards. Lessons and activities match children's individual level and they learn at their own pace. Students can work on counting numbers, adding, subtracting with interactive activities and lessons. It contains content that matches standards for pk-2 standards. Expense approved.
- The Amazon Smile program will be ending this month. Will continue offering Stuff Etc and Main Street Exchange options for donating funds to POWWER.
- Hospitality report – Hot cocoa bar went over well with staff. Valentine's Day parties are set for Tuesday, February 14. Valentines will also be handed out to teachers and staff. Conferences are in March with the teacher meal scheduled for Tuesday, March 7.
- Box Top app is available and individuals can select Orchard Hill to get these points.

- Hy-Vee receipts – The next turn in will be in April. Keep submitting your receipts.
- Popcorn day – Raised more than enough funds from Penny Wars to purchase a new popcorn machine. Also have funds to help pay for carts, if needed. Received donations to cover supplies for the next two popcorn days. Planning to do the next one on Friday, February 24, in conjunction with Read-A-Thon.
- Penny Wars went well! Being in the cafeteria this year was awesome because everyone could see the progress. Some new parent feedback was that they didn't really understand the concept of the penny war. Loud speaker announcements by kids need to be clearer as they were hard to understand.
- Read-A-Thon will be held February 20-March 3. Emails will be sent to teachers and parents with more information. Info sheets will also be given to teachers to send home with students. Gave a rundown of this year's incentives.
- Fun Fair – Need to decide we if we are raising money for a specific cause or goal. One idea is to raise money for a playground shade structure. Still in need of a volunteer coordinator and someone to help with raffle donations. Planning meeting will be held right after this meeting.
- Next month's meeting will be pushed back to after Spring Break due to conferences.

Next Meeting

Adjourned at 8:02 p.m. Next meeting will be held Tuesday, March 21, at 7:00 pm.

Minutes taken and submitted by Jenna Flugum.

PURPOSE STATEMENT

"...to promote the welfare and educational values of children and youth at Orchard Hill Elementary School..."
