
In Attendance

Andrea Christopher, Sarah Hess, Ashley and James Welter, Andrew and Nicole Bolthouse, Vee Barnard, Traci Edson, Sarah Staker, Suzanne Watters, Lisa Newgard, Liz Brunsen, Danielle Just, Randy Husted, Monica Boyer, Matt Goblirsch, Darin Adams, Jenna Flugum.

Principal's Corner (Andrea Christopher)

- Currently focusing on Habit 1 - Be Proactive ("I am in charge of me"). First three habits are focused on within oneself and the rest are external.
- Halloween parties are on Friday, October 28, which is also a noon dismissal day. No parade. Students can wear costumes, although no fake weapons, no blood/gore, or anything too frightening. For younger students, it is important to practice getting their own costume on and off to use the restroom.
- Building-wide WIG (wildly important goal) is on math this year. When we grow students' math skills, we also improve their reading skills. Currently have 75% of students meeting the math benchmark and we want to move this needle to 80%.
- Leader jobs have begun around the building. Ask your child about this.
- Orchard Hill is supporting the Cedar Falls High School food drive. Food and monetary donations will be accepted through October 28 and will support our local food bank.
- Lunch volunteers are back in the building! If you are interested in volunteering as a lunch volunteer, contact Mrs. Moeller (kelly.moeller@cfschools.org).
- This month is Safety Month. In the fall, we practice fire and tornado drills. Dangerous intruder drills occur in the spring.

Safety Presentation and Kindergarten Updates

- Cedar Falls School Resource Officer, Liesel Barron, could not make tonight's meeting so Ms. Chris shared the information. The school resource officer teaches about bullying, cyber security, and drug prevention. Internet safety is also taught in media center at all grade levels each year. Parents can email Liesel.reimers@cfschools.org with questions.
- Be involved in your kids' social media presence. Follow them and have their accounts set as private. Be aware of the bio info and don't share personal info. Don't take for granted their safety on the internet!
- Video games have online chat rooms. Remind your kids to not share personal information.
- Recommends parents search for "Officer Gomez" on Facebook for great parenting ideas and information.
- Sarah Hess and Ashley Welter are going to work on highlighting some safety tips on the POWWER Facebook page this month.
- Kindergarten teachers shared about their students' recent field trip to Safety City. Students got to see and learn more about equipment and safety in all areas – police, emergency medical technicians, 911 dispatch, firefighters, bike safety, Cedar Falls Utility, and fingerprinting.
- Kindergarten teachers also presented about their new alphabet tubs with 3D objects, purchased with funds from POWWER. Utilizing 3D objects can help students learn their letters. Teachers have also shifted focus this year by introducing letter sounds first and then attaching the letter name to the sound, rather than vice versa.

Updates & Treasurer's Report

- Hospitality report – email reminders are being sent out about classroom parties. POWWER will be providing dinner for teachers on Tuesday night of conference week. Please sign-up to help bring items!
- Hy-Vee receipts – could use one more volunteer to help with counting receipts. If interested, contact Mindy Kramme.
- Lisa Newgard manages mileage club and was awarded grant funding through the Cedar Falls Community Schools Foundation to pay for the first year's subscription, which runs out in February. Looking to possibly keep this going next year and cost is roughly \$200.
- Andrew Bolthouse gave the treasurer's report:
 - A few expense items and approximately \$600 come in from Spirit Sale as well as a \$250 donation. Roughly \$45,000 in checking.
- Spirit Sale sold 240 items with a \$3 markup so we raised \$618. Last year raised \$688. If anyone is interested in running the spirit sale next year, please let Monica Boyer know.
- Randy Husted talked about the butterbraids fundraiser. If we sell 1,167 items then we would bring in \$7,000 in revenue which is what POWWER budgeted for. Last day for sales is October 24. November 17 is pickup. Will need a few volunteers to help at pickup. Top 20 sellers will receive a free scoop of ice cream from Skoopski's. Top seller will receive a \$50 Urban Pie gift certificate.
- Haley Iehl and Lisa Schweigel will be spearheading popcorn days this year! They are testing the popcorn machines on Monday. First school-wide popcorn day on November 18. Need a couple volunteers to help on this day from 8:30am - 12:30pm. If anyone is willing to help cover the cost/donate supplies (popcorn seeds, oil, etc.) that would be great. Otherwise, will look at asking families to contribute \$2-3 for popcorn days for the rest of the year.
- Gift wrap fundraiser is planned for Saturday, December 10th in the afternoon. Information will go out about this soon. Volunteers will be needed!
- Discussions were had at tables about what we can do to make Fun Fair even better this year.

Next Meeting

Adjourned at 8:03 p.m. Next meeting will be held November 15 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..."