

In Attendance

Andrea Christopher, Sarah Hess, Ashley Welter, Andrew Bolthouse, Dalia Zepeda, Sarah Staker, Jessica Booth, Ryleigh Schnell, Mitchell Rahm, Luke Wagner, Mindy Kramme, Suzanne Watters, Katherine Brown, Andrea Hutchison, Karen Becker, Anna Ndelekwute, Justine Rinehart, Jenna Flugum.

Instructional Technology at Orchard Hill Presentation

- TLC funds were used to get an instructional coach. Saw significant growth in math with our students and believe this is in part to Mr. Luke Wagner (taught 2nd grade for many years and is now a tech coach). While he has served all district buildings, he is currently working with Aldrich, Cedar Heights, North Cedar, and Orchard Hill (primary location).
- Mr. Wagner had 605 interactions throughout the year and has been in the classroom over 200 times at Orchard Hill. Technology integration done at the request of teachers, curricular connections brought in, etc.
- Partnered with Ms. Newgard to help teach research skills in 2nd grade by using the ipad. Alpha-piloted Buncee in K-2nd. Code-a-pillars used in pre-K and K to introduce students to coding. Goosechase used in grades 1, 2, 4, and 6. BreakoutEDU used in 1-6 grades. Sphero Indis used in 1st (sound unit) and 2nd (coding). Beebots in p-k through 2nd. Osmos used K, 1st, and 2nd. Sam labs flow-based coding blocks used in 6th grade.
- Boosts critical thinking skills, fosters resilience through failure, etc.

Principal's Corner, Celebrations from the Year, and Teacher Sharing

- October we hired Ms. Brown to be our English Language Learner teacher. November we renewed our lighthouse status. December we had a successful Literacy Night. January was the 100th day of school and we met the school-wide math proficiency goal. February we participated in random acts of kindness with Joey and focused on adding more kindness to the school and community. March The Tree Girls received the grant they applied for and began planning for a tree planting ceremony scheduled for May. April we had Fun Fair and ISASPs went well. May has lots of end-of-year things coming up -- assembly, born to shine, etc.
- Mr. Rahm gave a PE equipment update. Items purchased with PE funding include hockey sticks for the school, volleyballs and beach balls, and items for throwing and catching unit (gator skin balls, yarn balls, mesh bags). If anyone has kid shoes or has a shoe organizer they would be willing to donate to the PE program, please let Mr. Rahm know.
- Ms. Kranz recorded a music update and thank you to share with POWWER since she wasn't able to attend the meeting. She was able to purchase modern band instruments and misc items (cords, plug-ins), two guitars and amps, drum thrones, keyboards, and white boards (plain one side and lines on the other).
- Third grade is interested in purchasing a few items like electric pencil sharpeners, a book shelf, carpet. Also requesting if they can save some of their grade-level money for next year to utilize in conjunction with the curriculum changes. Andrew said most grades have spent between \$1,000-1,500 and for those that have not they can carry over their funds.
- This past year, we utilized funds to pay for IXL, a learning site to supplement and provide enrichment to what is being taught in the classroom. To continue utilizing, the cost would be \$12,000 for first year to sign on and \$5,000 annually thereafter. Will discuss this further before making a final decision.

Other Updates

- Hospitality chair – teacher appreciation week is being celebrated this week (May 8-12). Sixth grade party is set for June 1 at Palmer’s. Roughly 90% of the 6th graders volunteered at Fun Fair to “earn” their party. Treasurer’s report – Brought in \$27,000 for Fun Fair this year and budgeted \$22,000. Yearbook is bringing in funds now, too. \$500 has come in from Benevity (John Deere) and another donation. Teachers have been claiming their stipends which is great. Continue to have a surplus of grade-level funds (roughly \$40,000) for budget, so sitting at roughly \$58,900.
- Survey was sent out about fundraisers and responses were pretty positive overall. Teacher survey was also sent out and feedback provided asked if we could consider not having as many asks but still having some fundraisers. A couple parents gave feedback about not want to do selling (butterbraids) versus other fundraisers or strictly an ask for monetary donations. Read-a-thon and Fun Fair fundraisers could be spread out a bit more. Perhaps move Read-a-thon to the fall. Another idea was to offer more student-led fundraisers like penny wars or jolly rancher sales. Could we do something like a color fun run (North Cedar, Cedar Heights, and Hanson have done this and we could ask them for guidance and best practices). School supply fundraiser was another idea although it was mentioned this was something brought up in the past that was declined by the district so we will need to investigate this option further.
- Volunteers are needed throughout the year to help make these events and fundraisers successful, particularly Fun Fair. Goal for next year is to have more committee volunteers help rather than 6-8 people plan the entire event.
- Mindy is interested in continuing Hy-Vee receipts. She is waiting to see if the program is still happening as Hy-Vee eliminated the position of the person who was coordinating on their end.
- Last popcorn day will be May 12.
- Yearbook currently has 127 orders with 191 books ordered. Orders close on May 11. Jessica feels like numbers are a bit behind where we were last year. Cost has been \$4 and we charge \$8 and also ask for a \$2 donation so supplement the cost for others that may not be able to purchase. Jessica asked if POWWER can just cover the cost for the remaining books needed so all kids can get one for this year and all agreed that is a great idea. Could perhaps try selling them at the Fun Fair next year, too.

2023-2024 Board Election

- Sarah Hess will continue to serve as president for one more year as it is set to be a two-year term. Haley Iehl will serve as vice president. Andrew Bolthouse and Jenna Flugum who have been serving as treasurer and secretary, respectively, have offered to step aside for anyone interested in serving in these roles next year. If you are interested, please let Sarah know, otherwise they will continue to help in this capacity.

Next Meeting

Adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Next meeting will be held in August or September. Date to be determined.

Minutes taken and submitted by Jenna Flugum.

<p>PURPOSE STATEMENT</p>

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