



Hosmer Elementary PTO

Parents + Teachers + Students

Hosmer PTO Meeting Notes - Tuesday, May 2, 2017 6:30 PM Adjourned at 7:50 PM

15 Attendees:

Hosmer: Principal LaRoche, Vice Principal Fitzpatrick, Art Teacher Ms. Kim and 2nd Grade Teacher Mrs. Pearce
PTO: Co-Presidents Mina Roustaei & Nicole Higgins, Treasurer Gina Brennan and Correspondence Secretary Ellen Cross.
Nominees: Brittney Losee, Amy Panza, Chris Higgins, Laura Daly, and Kendra Foley
Parents: Naomi Shea (Gardens) and Elizabeth Farrar

● Principal Update

- Mid-way through MCAS – Math starts the week of 5/7. Elizabeth Kaplan requested 5th grade students for a voluntary online Science test – for experience only. It is not counted toward any standing.
- End of year field trips are coming up. Laser Tag, Zoo, Discovery Museum.
- Spring pictures were taken on 4/11
- Read-a-thon is going well –thinking of expanding the read-a-thon next year.
- Teacher to Class placements are in progress. The school is asking to teacher to voluntarily move – the current ask is?
4th -5th
3rd – 2nd
2nd – 1st
Kendra Foley posed the question why are teachers moving 3rd – 2nd and 2nd – 1st, rather than 3rd – 1st. Mr. LaRoche explained it was too far of a jump to move a 2nd grade teacher to 1st grade.
- It was confirmed that the Hosmer needs 6 first grade teachers in FY2018
- Student Classroom Placements are also in progress, if you have a student you would like to direct the school of problems with or a teacher you would like to recommend, please send in a written letter or email administration.
- Co-Teaching model will be in effect again for grades 3, 4, & 5.
- New Hire Kate Condon, who has helped to open an orphanage in Uganda and goes back every summer, will be joining the staff. Co-teaching keeps children in the classroom but taught in smaller groups so children are not missing the current lesson and obtaining extra help where needed. Ms. Condon will use WIDA "World-class Instructional Design and Assessment." test support for language. Ms. Condon will be teaching ELL students in small groups in class.
- Principal requests Site Council input.
 - Parents send an email with a Hosmer accomplishment from last year and something you would like to see in the future.
 - Improvements can be about, teaching, family nights, overall happiness, etc.
 - Future can be, no more homework, adding more science, recess, lunch options, etc.
- Other notes: Brittney Losee noted problems opening school emails. Parent Elizabeth Farrar noted and issues for her husband who uses text to speech. Correspondence Secretary Ellen Cross noted, text versions are the best for accessibility options. Issues are being referred to Toni Carlson, WPS IT.
- Parent Question from Kendra Foley regarding Watertown child moving from a private school to public. Who should Kendra direct the parents to for registration.
- Answered by Principal LaRoche, to contact the Central Office – each school may support children from other districts, ie Hosmer has Cuniff districted students and the Lowell may have Hosmer Districted students. Central office is responsible for overseeing the placement process.
- Mass Dot/Safe Walk will be making sidewalk improvements by the Kindergarten doors. Planning will begin in Spring '18 for a total of 18 months of project time. Actual construction work will be approximately 3-6 months.

● VP Fitzpatrick

- READ-A-THON – going very well Children read almost 30,000 hours of the 50,000 goal.
 - Treasurer Gina Brennan noted about \$2,000 in donations

- Kendra Foley noted that her family donations were made via PayPal, the above total does not reflect that amount. In light of this, Kendra requested that, next year the PTO offer Paypal or Square to for payment. We do not see any reason why not.
 - Book Swap – joint effort between Mrs. Fitzpatrick, the Hosmer Library and PTO - We believe every child will be offered a book this year, thanks to the generosity of teachers, parents and students.
 - Update – Nicole Higgins notes, All children were offered a book, next year to offer all children books, more likely than not used bookstores will need to be purchased.
- Art Teacher Ms. Kim
 - Spoke about Art and Music Extravaganza (6/1) – Electronic communication only - there will be photo booths, an art show, and listening centers from 6-7pm and the music concert in the auditorium at 7pm.
 - Volunteers are needed: 4 middle school helpers, 1-2 adult photographers, 2-3 adults for listening centers, 1-2 Performance helpers for Pk-K portion of the concert – Helpers to get the children lined up and on stage since this will be their first auditorium performance. Please email Sarah Patashnick or Hae-in Kim if you would like to help.
 - 4th Grade may run a bake sale to start on their 5th grade activities fund.
- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon 5/24 – early dismissal Run by Mina Roustaei
 - Signups are complete and located at www.hosmerpto.org/TAL
- Teacher Appreciation Breakfast 5/26 – Run by Gina Brennan
 - Signups are complete and located at www.hosmerpto.org/TAL
 - Volunteers are needed to for, Food Preparation, Setup, Serving and Clean up.
- Booster-Thon meeting on 6/1 10:00 AM, Brittney Losee will join Nicole Higgins as PTO reps for this meeting at the Hosmer.
- Field Day – Update provided by VP Fitzpatrick, Popsicle purchases will be assigned. The generous showing last year filled all the freezers and though appreciated there was just too much. Looking for 5 gallon water jugs to dispense water and spare bottles for children who forget theirs.
 - Kendra Foley will call the High School Athletics Director to see if we can borrow theirs.
 - Nicole Higgins will contact local banks to see if Promo bottles will be donated.
- Math Night – Update provided by Math Night Committee members: Amy Panza, Laura Daly and Kendra Foley.
 - Date may change – currently set for 6/8. Geo Structure teacher and Hosmer Teachers will be unavailable on this date. Math Night committee will discuss and report to the PTO.
- Box Tops – Update Provided by: Britney Losee. Hosmer Received another \$400 Check. The box is full and will be counted for an updated total soon.
- New Nominee’s to the PTO Board were introduced and updated:
 - Brittney Losee – Vice President
 - Amy Panza – Treasurer
 - Christopher Higgins – Treasurer
 - Kendra Foley – Chair of Grade Representatives
 - Laura Daly - Recording Secretary *Updated
 - Laura Daly took this time to note that she is glad to be of service to the community.
 - Amy Panza also spoke of her wanting to help and that her qualifications come with Russell School Treasury experience. Amy has ideas to make our budget more transparent and overall organization.
- Gardens Committee: Naomi has requested the PTO recruit a gardens committee to ensure the future of the Garden Health. PTO has agreed and will look for candidates in the next few months.
- Adopt a fire station: Updated by VP Fitzpatrick and Nicole Higgins
 - Mrs. Donato, 3rd grade teacher has offered to take the children to the fire station on Friday 5/5. The Children have made cards to deliver to show condolences and appreciation to our Fire Fighters.
 - Parent Food delivery to the Nurse’s fridge
 - Food Delivery to the station – Brittney Losee

- Music Teacher Mrs. Patashnick will join the children to sing.
 - Nicole Higgins noted parents have donated food that will be delivered to the school by 9:30 for the 10/10:30 Departure.
 - Principal LaRoche noted if you were available and wanted to go, meet the children at the school or fire station.
- Proposed PTO Programs
 - The talk primarily turned to the Budget.
 - Noted by Chris Higgins – Next year's income and expenses will be minimally 25% less due to the 5,000 one-time gardens grant. Additionally, The PTO's expenses look off due to negative line items – agreed with by Amy Panza. .
 - Proposed by Gina Brennan, a 5\$ per child increase for Academic Enrichment bringing the total to 10,500 next year for Enrichment.
 - Kendra Foley Noted the Surplus in School Supplies and directed the Spending to Principal LaRoche.
 - Items will be discussed at a PTO budget meeting - TBD.
 - Additionally noted by Chris Higgins, His time as treasurer with the Boy Scouts, it was helpful to hand out a schedule for the following year for parents. In the least, have dates for the first few activities.
 - Nicole Higgins noted, we have not done this before and will try to organize a calendar.
 - Lastly Noted (again by Chris Higgins): PTO should be recruiting a new grants committee soon. Laura Daly, Kendra Foley and Nicole Higgins all volunteered to help with Grants – but will look for someone to coordinate dates and ensure deadlines are not missed.
- *New Final FY 17 Meeting date is Wednesday, June 14 – Hosmer Library
 - All Members (Hosmer Staff, PTO and Parents) will vote on Board Members, including existing seats.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 PM – Thank you all for joining us!

Updates: Calendar is underway

Firefighters are happy and appreciative

Book swap, every child received a book – thanks to the teachers and parents generous book donations.