**Greenfield Home & School Minutes**

January 4, 2019

**Attendees:**

Graham Bailer, Dan Lazar, Liz Meyer, Mara McAdams DeMarco, Alex Vegega, Rae-Lynne Tuzzo, Janis Devlin, Beth Clement, Kathryn Wurges, Caitlin Brown, Erica Intzekostas, Nicole Eggerts, Reva Batheja Ruiz, Liza Herzog, Joanna Bisgaier, Kristin McKenna, Amy Arcaro, DeWitt Brown, Robyn Flenner, Matilda Brewe.

**Principal Update:**

* Dan informed the group that a former student contacted Greenfield about doing his Eagle Scout project on school property. Over winter break, this student constructed a Gaga Ball pit in the play yard. It seems to be a hit with the Greenfield students!
* January is a busy month. We have ½ days for report card conferences on 1/30-2/1, where there will be swag sales, an HSA info table, drama club info, and possibly an 8th grade bake sale. There’s also the Scholastic Book Fair and MLK Day of Service.

**Scholastic Book Fair:**

* The book fair will take place the week of January 28th.
* HSA is looking for volunteers to help run the fair and organize the teacher’s schedules.
* There will be a book fair informational meeting after drop off on Wednesday, January 9.

**MLK Day:**

* There is no school 1/18 – 1/21.
* Parent and family volunteers are needed to help clean/repair/paint classrooms and common areas in the school for MLK Day of Service, taking place Monday, 1/21.
* Potential projects include:
	+ closet in the library that needs to be cleaned out so that it can be used for the level readers books.
	+ The prop closet/auditorium supply closet needs shelves and organization.
	+ Outdoor clean-up in the school yard and blocks surrounding school.
* HSA is also looking for a few volunteers to help with child care of the younger children.
* There will be an informational meeting after drop off on Monday, January 7. We need people to show up to this meeting and offer to volunteer, otherwise we may have to cancel the day of service.

**Auction Kick Off:**

* There is a planning meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 8, after drop off. We already have a good amount of volunteers, but need all the help we can get with procurement.. We have 7 weeks to procure items.
* The auction committee will have meetings weekly on Tuesday mornings after drop off..
* A reminder that the auction is at Hamilton Hall at UArts, on March 15th.

**Student Council:**

* Matilda Brewe informed the group that student council put in a proposal to Mr. Lazar to have a Glow Game this February. Once they hear back, they can begin to plan.

**Wake Up Wednesday:**

* CLI 1/16
* Singapore Math 1/30 – parents will learn tips to engage their kids in math.
* Teen Puberty 2/14
* Open 2/27 – If you have any ideas, please contact the HSA.

**Budget:**

* Kristin McKenna went over the Annual Fund numbers with the group. We are close to $90,000, with a 50% participation.
	+ Kristin just received two matching checks to take the AF total over $90,000.
	+ Emails will go out next week from a parent in each grade tailored to their fellow parents to help spark more donations.
* Disney on Ice was a success. It brought in some money, but more importantly, was a fun day for many Greenfield families.
* The lower school production of Willy Wonka was a huge success. The money made from the performance will back into the drama program, which is nice that it can pay for itself.
* Teacher grants continue to come in. To date, about 30% have used their grant money.
* Kristin needs to find out if Newspaper Club will continue this spring.
* Winterfest made about $1000 and cost about $895. There was a good turnout of students and seemed to be a fun night.
* Original Works made about $3300, which is about what we budgeted.
* Kristin and Graham met with the teachers before winter break.
	+ The teachers were encouraged to reach out to Dan first and he will then decide if the issue is school related or HSA related.
	+ Teachers leading after school programs were informed that they need to submit their hours on a weekly basis in order to get paid for their time.
	+ The next HSA/teacher meeting is scheduled for the PD Day, 1/18.

**DeWitt Update:**

* DeWitt has been working on creating a survey to parent feedback about the Annual Fund and the perception of HSA’s role.
	+ One of the questions will be if parents gave to the Annual Fund, and if so, was it more, less, or the same as last year.
* Informed the group that the plan for this spring is to go public with the playground development.
	+ There are two Greenfield parents who have experience with playground design and development who are creating the initial plans. They will present to the teachers on the PD day, 1/18/ to get their feedback. The next step after that will be to reach out to parents and the community.
* DeWitt and Liza are in the process of applying for grants to help supplement the Homework Club.

**Caitlin Update:**

* The letter sent on 12/31 produced some good results.
* The next newsletter will focus on participation.
* Letters will be going out next Wednesday from a parent in each grade which will target their personal grades.

**Rae-Lynne Update:**

* There will be a teacher breakfast the morning of the PD day, 1/18. A sign up for food donations will go in the newsletter.
* Also in the newsletter, there will soon be a new tab about looking for people who would like to shadow board members or committee chairs for the next year.
* Rae-Lynne is also working with other board members and parents to see how we can get more parents engaged and want to volunteer. This year in particular, HSA is having trouble finding new people to step up.

**Nicole/Heart Committee Update:**

* Nicole met with Mrs. Brownell and our new nurse, Christina McCabe.
	+ Before winter break, they identified a family in need, living in a shelter. Through a grassroots operation of word-of-mouth, a giving circle was able to raise $550 towards a Walmart gift card. The card was then given to Mr. Lazar, who then delivered it to the family in order to keep their anonymity. This was all able to be done in 24-48 hours.
	+ The next step is to reach out to the other teachers to see if they have families in their classes in need of help, confidentially.

**Robyn Update:**

* Robyn is in talks with Erica Feldman about restructuring SAC and Wellness.
* Training in talks to teach grades 1-7 the Heimlich maneuver.
* Reva Batheja Ruiz is doing hearing tests for grades k-3 taking place today. Reva would like to do a hearing assessment informational session, possibly a Wake Up Wednesday. Topics can include wearing earbuds at the right volume level, etc.
* Robyn is reaching out to area businesses who would give discounts or free classes to teachers and staff.
* The Wellness committee is trying to get more of a health curriculum for at least grades 6-8, starting with teaching the students simple hygiene.

**Miscellaneous:**

* The first day of kindergarten registration is 1/22 at 9am. There will be a swag sale and bake goods for parents enrolling their kids.
* A competitive chess club may be starting soon. It will be a pay- to- play club.
* Mrs. Atkin proposed to do an after school club that would supplement the Science Fair. She would help students with the various stages of their projects.
* Kate Wurges let the group know that some of the kindergarten parents and Greening Greenfield have a short term solution for the slippery rocks in the Chestnut St. garden. The plan is to possibly cover the stones with mulch. This will make the garden a safer place for the kids to play until a longer term solution can be found.

Last month’s minutes were approved and then the meeting was adjourned.