

Worthington Hooker PTA Minutes February 6, 2019.

Officers Present: Mowafi, Roumani, Geertz, Gurvich, Roginsky, Rosen-Gallagher,
Delaney Staff Present: Ackerman, Gethings

Meeting called to order,
6.10. Minutes approved.

Volunteer thanks: MANY thanks to Linda Guo, Song Teoh, Lili Zeng, and Claire Rowe who put in a huge amount of work and made the Lunar New Year event stupendously successful. Thanks also to Beata Planeta, who is overseeing the Mathnasium event (needs volunteers); and to Sahar Usmani-Brown, who is working like crazy with Alana Dlubak on the Science Fair.

Treasurer's Report: We are 10 members SHORT of our PTA goal for this year's membership list.

Revels brought in \$700 in donations. Math enrichment: Ms. Orringer cannot do it any more for health reasons. Dream Box software is suggested by teachers here as a useful alternative. Overall, PTA financial standing is strong.

SPMT Report: Teachers have had professional development in re: arts integration.

Discussion of 6th gr. faculty absence. Discussion of BoE changing lockdown terminology to layman's terms, for parents' benefit. Next year's budget discussed. WHS, as of two weeks ago, anticipates no cuts because we are currently so minimally staffed. Mrs. Checko will be leaving the school as of March 1 to take job in another district.

Principal's Report: Drama teacher has started, very enthusiastic reviews from staff/kids.

New work with vertical teaming to let teachers from different grades interact with each other, discussing curriculum and teaching strategies. Classes also having vertical sessions, which is going very well. Science Fair is coming up; History Day as well; World Read-Aloud Day happened recently. QU sports teams have come to do reading projects with the kids. 8th grade hosting a social for younger kids; Spizzwinks will sing. The 6th graders have a new thing where a parent comes in 2x/week to volunteer in classrooms; a lot of parents have expressed interest in helping with this kind of thing.

Nominating Committee: Created for this year: Caleb; Dina; Lea; nominated to committee, approved.

Outdoor Classroom: Delaney and some parents met with URI's Chris Ozyck. Ozyck, with team

of people from Common Ground, will be redesigning the outdoor space, adding tables, benches. PTA has \$500 avail. toward this; has also applied for \$2K in grants. City Bench is willing to donate kits for us to assemble. There are also those who'd like to build a gaga pit. The Canner Street garden is lovely; Donna Aiello works hard on it and the kids work on it and it shows.

PTA is planning to acquire Chromebooks for faculty use. ASP is doing a survey to try to establish what direction(s) programming should aim for; parental responses are limited thus far but interesting. Some parents want a School of Rock, or Coding. ASP anticipates changes in 2019-2020 as Leila Day's prices will be going up. Discussion of what is/isn't possible/manageable for ASP; what incentives might be offered next year to get more parents involved with ASP.

Meeting adjourned
7.30. Submitted, E.
Geertz Secretary

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