

Horn PTO – February 7, 2017 Agenda and Minutes

1. Welcome and approval January minutes – Laura Broffitt
Minutes approved.
2. DPO update and summary of January meeting – Laura Broffitt
 - a. Legislative Lobbyist
Day on the Hill happened already, and it went well. Another day on the hill will be organized by Urban Education Network (advocacy group) for Feb 15th.

Iowa City Schools Part 2 on Face Book – this is a place where parents can communicate concerns (e.g. cuts to education funding by state), articles, etc.

- b. Next meeting – February 8, Lemme Elementary
3. Principal's Report – Mrs. Cannon
 - a. ISMILE -
To be discussed next time
 - b. Introduction of teachers
To be discussed next time

4. Teachers' updates
 - a. Ms. Hassen, guidance – unable to attend
 - b. ELL (English Language Learners)
Sarah Dowd – ~ 105 to 110 kids using ELL services. We currently have 3 full time and one half time staff member. In addition to Sarah Dowd, we also have Stacey Alfaro, Jackie Owing, and Allison Seaton (half time at Horn and half time at Hills).

There is an English test that the kids have to take at the end of Feb/early March. The deciding factor if a child is proficient to exit the ELL program is based on the results of English test combined with Iowa Assessment score. The English test is a state wide assessment that is computer based for grades K-6.

We have a diverse group of kids in ELL. We have at least 20-30 kids with different primary languages at Horn. Anyone who comes to the district and on the home language survey speaks any language other than English will have a mandatory assessment. This helps to determine if kids need ELL services. Parents can opt out of the services.

About 10-20 kids were able to exit ELL this year. Twice a year the ELL teachers will check their classroom scores. Any type of backsliding then the kids can rejoin.

ELL will not pull kids during core education time in class, intervention time, or specials. Can be pulled during small group reading, social studies, and science. Every kid every day will have ELL services.

There is a need for books to help ELL kids comprehend math and vocabulary.

- c. IDS (Instructional Design Strategist) - unable to attend.
5. Treasurer's Report – Peter Abbott
Year book money is coming in. Total is pending.
Overall account is just under \$35,000
6. January Recap
- a. Dance Marathon
Everyone had a great time.
 - b. 3rd/4th Grade Music Concert
This year the grades were split, so the 3rd graders had a performance first, followed by 4th graders. The layout for parents to view the performance was better so all parents could see with lots of room. The performances went really well.

- c. Dunk Mrs. Cannon Reading Campaign
Going well. In the month of January the kids read 328,044 pages.
Goal is for the kids to read 1,000,000 pages.

7. On the Horizon

- a. Valentine's Day Parties – Feb 14
Check with classroom teachers for the start time of the parties.
- b. Parent Teacher Conferences – Feb 23rd, March 1st and 2nd
 - Meals for teachers
Sign up will be going out next week for volunteers to help/donate items for the meals.
- c. NWJH show choir performing for students – Feb. 22
Junior high kids will come to Horn to perform.
- d. Carnival Planning Meeting update
We are still in need of someone to help lead the Hornet Café, and for someone to help lead the prize room. We also need one more person to help with ticket sales.

8. CSPO Update

Bingo for books was in December. A lot of books were donated by families. There was a small turn out, but the kids were really excited. CSPO would like to do one more this spring.

Movie night was Jan 27th. There was a big turn out (~200-250 parents/kids), and it was a lot of fun. CSPO will do another one.

Thank you to the Parent Translators at Horn for your help!

9. Other business/Adjourn

Kindergarten registration is coming up on March 1st and March 2nd.

Science Fair to occur sometime in April

Teacher Appreciation in May.

Need to do a fundraiser to solicit for \$25,000 for playground. Need swings for upper grade playgrounds, and need some equipment re-installed for younger grade playground.

Attendance list

Heena Olalde

Beth Fettweis

Laura Broffitt

Sarah Dowd

John Ham