

Skyline Support Association Minutes

September 10, 2014

Attendees: See sign in sheet.

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

- Debbie Hermansader, Co-President, brought the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.
 - Board was introduced:
 - Barbara Hewlett, Treasurer
 - Nikki Graham, Secretary
 - Motion on the floor by Debbie Hermansader to nominate a vote for Barbra Creswell as Co-President. Nikki Graham with the second motion set forth the vote. Vote on the floor for Barbra Creswell as Co-President. All in favor, vote finalized.

Principal's Report

- Frank Rumford, Principal welcomed everyone and discussed the below:
 - DCAS - Skyline was the only traditional middle school to earn AYP and meet all 13 growth targets.
 - 'Opening Day' for 6th graders was a great success.
 - Welcome Jaguar Pride - flexibility + teamwork. Look for it throughout the school!
 - Staffing update - 11 teachers moved classrooms as well as several who switched positions (including special ed to regular ed, etc).
 - New 6th grade teachers are Mr. Reuter, Ms. Schiavone, Ms. Stiles and Ms. Geschwindt a new special ed ELA teacher.
 - Block scheduling was discussed. 80-88 minute classes. Science and Social Studies will rotate each marking period.
 - Information regarding Inclusion at Skyline can be found on the website. Co-teaching settings are in Math and ELA in each grade as well as support in social studies and science.
 - Red Clay Autistic Program has 3 students at Skyline. It has been a great transition.
 - Technology update - the computer lab was lost to a need for a classroom but an ipad cart and laptop cart was gained. Skyline now has 6 working laptop carts and a 7th will be completely redone this fall. There are 27 teachers with ipads utilized in classrooms with smart boards.
 - A grant was submitted for the Homework Club. Anticipated dates will be 10/1 - 5/13 with 9 staff members.
 - Red Clay has a new app for your phones, check it out.
 - Great Schools Link is www.greatschools.org - check it out for Skyline.
 - Parent Activity Nights - BLT planning evening and/or during school events to include parents. Ideas are welcome.
 - Dress Down Day - over \$2200 raised for the Wounded Warriors in memory of a Red Clay employee who recently passed. Next dress down fundraiser will be 10/17 to raise money for the Sanfilippo disease foundation. Everyone received a copy of the dress down day dress code. Be sure to read it to avoid problems.
 - NUT cards (no uniform) are given out if you attend the SSA meeting, thank you for attending.
 - Scholastic Reading & Math Inventory - test used to measure students growth in math and ELA this year as Smarter Balanced test data will not count until next year. The new test will be given only one time - Spring.
 - Looking for a grading committee parent volunteer - see Mr. Rumford.
 - Do not hesitate to email any questions you may have.

Special Guest

- Mrs. Faccenda reviewed the AR program. AR (accelerated reader) is conducted daily in homeroom. A letter will come home with the username and password for home monitoring.
 - ZPD (zone of proximal development) was determined based on the star test. Goals are set based on your ZPD (1st & 4th marking period - 6 week goal/2nd & 3rd marking period - 9 week goal).
 - Homeroom and ELA teachers monitor the progress and tests may be taken in either class. Progress is also noted in the student's agenda.
 - AR is 10% of ELA grade. If goals are reached with an average of at least 85% - there is a pool party incentive at the end of the year.
 - Book donations are always welcome.

Treasurer's Report

- Barbara Hewlett, Treasurer, reviewed the cash flow and account balances as of 6/30/14.
- The 2014/15 budget was reviewed. Debbie Hermansader made a motion to approve the budget based on the projected fundraiser totals. Nikki Graham seconded the motion. Vote to approve the 2014/15 budget on the floor. All in favor, budget was passed.

Secretary

- Nikki Graham, Secretary, provided the May meeting minutes. Barbra Creswell with the 1st motion and Debbie Hermansader with the 2nd motion approved the minutes.
- Reminder - announcements are posted on the Skyline website. Great resources to know what is coming up and what clubs, sports, etc are starting.

Committee Activity Updates (Barbra Creswell)

AR Pool Party:

- Chairperson is needed to coordinate the AR Pool Party. It will be held in May. See a board member if interested.

Book Buddies:

- The program will begin in the next few weeks. Applications will go through ELA teachers. There will be a fall and spring session.

Book Fair:

- Chairperson or Co-Chairs are needed for this committee. It will be held the week of 12/15 and will run with 2 evenings.

Dances:

- Melanie Kenney reported that the 6th grade dance will be 9/26 from 7-9 pm. Tickets will go on sale that week. No tickets can be sold at the door. If the first 6th grade dance is a success - there will be another 2/15.
- 11/7 - 7th & 8th grade dance.
- 1/23 - Winter Ball (NJHS sponsored). (1/30 weather contingency date).

Family Activities:

- Melanie Kenney reported that the Staff/Student Basketball game will be in February. More information to come as the date gets closer.

Fundraising:

- No Frills fundraiser will start 9/19. Look for more information via fliers, students as well as alert nows. If every student sends in just \$10 the goal will be met. Incentives include everything from No Homework pass to a Limo Ride to Grotto's.

Newsletter/Bulletin:

- Newsletter will be one month with the opposite being a small bulletin sent home with your student. Don't forget to ask for it.

Product Incentives:

- A volunteer is needed to head this committee. Box tops can still be sent in while the committee is being formed. Note - this is a great job for someone from home.

School Beautification:

- Kim Flanagan reported that the outdoor courtyards, flags, etc fall under this committee. Club assistance will be requested this year for clean up days.

Spirit Wear:

- Hoodies are for sale (skyline, gray or black) \$20 preferably by check to better track. Order forms are in the office.
- Magnets are for sale (\$5) and sweatpants are being looked in to.

Staff Appreciation:

- Kim Flanagan is looking for a co-chair for this committee. Luncheons are provided periodically throughout the year to the staff from Welcome Back to the End of the Year. Co-chair would help coordinate food, set up, serve and clean up.
- The next luncheon will be held on the ½ day of conferences (Thursday, 10/2). After that, the next luncheon will be held in December.
- Please see Kim if interested in assisting. There will be ways to assist for individual luncheons as well. Look out for emails from the SSA.

8th Grade Memories Dance:

- Jen Furman reported that this function is an 8th grade non formal event. A 'secret' theme is picked to help the 8th graders celebrate. Tentative date will be Friday, 5/15. More to come.

8th Grade Graduation:

- Wendy Collazo reviewed this committee. Flowers, balloons, etc are set up for 8th grade graduation and used for the 7th & 6th grade moving up ceremonies.
- 8th grade students will have a chance at designing the 8th grade t-shirt in which the SSA provides. A vote will determine the winner and shirts will be available before certain 8th grade trips at the end of the year.

Please note - 8th grade parents that will be done after this year chair the below committees. These committees may be vacant next year:

Secretary, Book Buddies, Dances, Family Activities, Fundraising, Newsletter/Bulletin.

New Business

- Nothing to report.

Old Business

- Nothing to report.

Announcements/Reminders

- If you are not receiving emails, you can check in with the office to confirm your email is on file.
- Please send in your Zingo's receipts and Box Tops.
- Picture Day is Monday, 10/6.
- Minutes will be posted on the Skyline Website.
- Contact the SSA at skylinessa@yahoo.com.
- Facebook page for information is www.facebook.com/pages/skyline-middle-school/127238777439620
- **Next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 9,2014 at 7pm in the Library.**

Barbra Creswell closed the meeting at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikki Graham
Skyline Support Association Secretary