WHITTIER PTA MEETING

FEBRUARY 21, 2013

Welcome-Derek Blasi

Pledge

Secretary report: Cindy Hickey, minutes from January meeting read, accepted

Treasurer report: Niki Ducy

 Income: Boxtops $1053

 Papa John's fundraiser $44

 Skate night $224

 Market Day $454

 Meijer $103

 Expenses: Dare Tshirts, Kindergarten field trip, start up funds

 Balance: $11,048

Parent Council Representative: Lisa Chakford

 Update:

 In June “pilot” online back-to-school registration, fees for new families

 Alignment

 Ohio School Board Association approved change of report cards grading system

 Ms. Woosley in attendance, reported on “Whittier...Service Learning School”

 Summer Expo/camps March 13

 Student Handbooks “pilot” program (IE: substitute teachers vs student health concerns)

 Westerville Education Foundation: allocation of grant money available

 Monte Carlo/Casino night (athletic boosters) April 5th

Principal report: Ms. Relford “welcome”

 lunch/recess changes “safety for all”

 1st grade eat then recess

 2nd/3rd grade recess then eat

 4th grade recess then eat

 5th grade eat then recess

 intelli-testing

 tera nova testing 2nd-5th grade (March)

 Kindergarten and Preschool drop off/pick up (email Ms. Relford with concerns)

 NBC4 grant “VOTE” for grant for “James” service learning project

 realignment

Teacher report: Ms. Rigsby, Mrs. Teeters

 “Bowl-a-thon” 5 teachers representing Whittier in “education foundation/Westerville

 Symphony fundraiser...PTA to pay $100 registration fee for team of teachers

Market Day: Meg Miller

 $2200 profit in sales so far this year, pie sale to support 4th/5th grade donations to James

 contest deadline for pie ordering March 4th

 GFS purchased “market day”...not assured of fundraising opportunity for 2013-2014

Spring Dance: March 20th

Open Agenda: School Library...thank you to volunteers, librarian in bldg 1 day every 4-5 days...

 without volunteers children would not have weekly library day

 District Re-Alignment

 ...need unified front to represent Whittier Elementary

 ...% of Whittier impact

 ...participation of Whittier community through survey's and presence at meetings

 ...% of displacement of Whittier families

 ...Whittier most affected because of proximity of location of school to Hanby/Emerson

 ...Option E

 ...South Westerville community has no 'community school'

 ...discussion of possibility of using Hanby/Emerson as South Westerville area 'neigh-

 borhood' school?

 ...research indicates when a school reaches 40-50% reduced fee/lunch students need,

 non-free/reduced student is affected

 ...Hanby/Emerson does not have enough 'Uptown” school students to fill their capacity

 ...A&T unit (non-committee discussion, bring in front of the Board)

 ...Cost savings to eliminate Magnet school program, budget reduction “transportation”

 ...Alcott facility vs. Emerson facility

 ...”All bus in” community school...lowest income community in oldest school facility

 ...Statistics on free/reduced lunch (non available, email questions)

 ...community to propose delay of decision of re-alignment, not to rush decision

 ...Report from committee on 2/25 instead of recommendation

 ...decision of realignment not cost/financial based

 ...school building in South Westerville was taken by Columbus City Schools, no south

 Westerville facility, so need to bring into Westerville community

 ...committee/Board has mostly heard from Robert Frost, McVay, Faust, Mark Twain

 Whittier needs 'unified voice'

 ...benefits of higher % of free/reduced lunch students ratio to school

 ...open enrollment to Whittier

 ...Board meeting Monday, Feb. 25th at Westerville South High School

 ...Petition to delay realignment to give time for more consideration

 ...Will autism unit be moved? No confirmation of this to Whittier

 ...Planning Blocks: numbers based on K-5 students 'live in” not actual attendance to

 neighborhood school (does not regard 'open enrollment', 'autism' unit students)

 ...Emerson/Hanby “Open enrollment school” which provides no transportation?

 ...discussion of moving “Open enrollment” date, extending deadline

 ...focus on each school having a 'learning lens'...Whittier is “service learning”

 ...questions of affects of realignment on teaching staff

 \*\*\*WHITTIER COMMUNITY NEEDS TO UNITE AND GIVE VOICE TO THEIR CONCERNS

 \*\*\*INVITATION TO COME TO SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MONDAY, FEB 25TH WESTERVILLE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL, FILL OUT SURVEYS OR ONLINE SURVEY

Meeting adjourned