

## **Thursday, September 14, 2023**

**Call to order:** 6:34 called by Melissa

**Approval of previous meeting minutes:** approved by Kim

### **Principal & Vice Principal Report:**

We completed the first round of STAR testing. Grades 1-5: reading and math. Kindergarten: early literacy test. Students are tested three times /year.

Picture day on Sept 28. Can order online or there are paper copies too. There are also picture retakes later on. Open house was this week. First and fourth grades teachers did their presentation together for a portion of the curriculum night. The other grades did it the traditional way. Attendance is not great after first grade, thinking of different ways to get parents here for this night in the future. Maybe doing stations in the classroom so parents can see what their kids do during the day. Open to ideas for next year.

Today was STAR store. We had a STAR assembly on Monday. The kids were excellent while in the assembly. Kindergarteners were SO well behaved, they got to sit on the bleachers instead of sitting on the floor. In the cafeteria we have the rockets for each grade and these can move up each week depending on what we are working on. Students are currently working on cafeteria behavior. Their rockets can move up each week. Trying to make this a big deal with the cafeteria workers to keep the kids engaged. The prizes at STAR store were also spoken about at the assembly. First trimester raffle item is a large squirrel squishmallow. All kids were excited about this! VV is partnering with the McHenry police dept and will have a raffle in each grade level to win a chance to read to Oakley the service dog. Students were talking about it all day. That was super exciting for all of the grades. We have new volunteers at the STAR store this year! 8 parents volunteered to help!! Thank you so much for volunteering!!

There is a new strategic plan for the district. Teachers and staff are working on doing this at a school level as well. There are 5 committees here at VV for Strategic planning. During early release teachers met to go over their committees and discuss items that they feel they can commit to. More outreach with the Police Department is included in these plans. They offered the use of Oakley which is why we are including that as part of the STAR store! Community committee with Mrs. Fritz: One goal is increased teacher involvement in the PTO! Everyone on the committee was on board, they came up with a schedule which will be voted on before it is sent out to the rest of the staff. Teachers have signed up to attend meetings.

Music performances: Nothing for K or 1st, "informance" for 2nd grade they are in school. 3rd 11/7, 4th grade 3/14 5th 4/23.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Zelle seems to be working well as an extra payment option. We started using this last month now that we have an account at Chase bank. It is working well. Parents have ordered shorts and used zelle to pay. Hopefully it will work well for the next event as well.
- Balance: to be updated soon
- We purchased socks and underwear for kids that need them at school. This was \$40. We purchased a giant Squishmallow Squirrel for the first Trimester Star Store Prize \$26.93.
- We received a check from Antioch Pizza for \$200.00 which is an excellent outcome for our dine outs. Thank you to all who ordered from Antioch Pizza!

### **Old Business:**

- September 21st Urban Air Night- we get a discounted rate. VV gets 20% back.
- September 26th Culver's: Staff serves the food! We still need volunteers from 7-8. We get 10% back on ALL sales. Maybe change the shifts to two 1.5 hour slots in the future. Amanda said she will email the form out to staff again.
- October 5th Fall Family Event. 5-7 pm
- October 17th Chipotle Fundraiser
- November 7th McDonald's, we'll be asking for staff volunteers for event. They will get shirts from McDonald's and we can sell apple pies and get 100% of pie sales (cash). Also 20% of all sales from 4:30-7:30.
- November 28th Papa John's fundraiser
- Pictures 9/28: PTO helps take classes down to gym. If anyone else wants to help bring kids to the gym let us know!

### **New Business:**

- Wolves game is scheduled for Sunday, January 28th (3pm), same section as last year. It was a great section. Hoping for another great run out
- We need volunteers for the book fair on October 4th and 5th during the school day. A sign up genius will be going out. Volunteers help students check out their books, working the registers.
- Staley da bear is coming for our 2nd Trimester Assembly for a kindness/good choices assembly. Date TBD, Jan. or Feb.
- December dineouts/fundraiser suggestions?? Feedback about more cost effective nights out. Brainstorm some reasonable options. Dairy queen fundraiser? New Panera?
- Going to look into Crystal Ice house for January.

**Events (Amanda): Fall Family Event October 5, 5-7pm**

- Book fair, pumpkin contest theme, fall games, food- hot dogs, chips, drinks, treats. Key club will help with games, teachers run the book fair. Volunteers help at the food tables. Help will be needed for set up and take down. Sign up genius needed for shifts. We received a donation for the pumpkins from Local Harvest, Herbs & Produce in Wonder Lake!!
- Food is the only cost at this event for families. This is an outside event unless weather is a problem.
- Pumpkins can be picked up next Tuesday, we are doing a Disney/Pixar theme for the contest

**Fundraising (Kim):** Color run for spring (traditional fundraiser for the year) We will run this ourselves instead of using an outside company.

Sublimation water bottles available by order form, maybe more than one option to choose from. These are dishwasher safe.

Other ideas for fundraising: Bowling, Pool party at YMCA or Holiday Inn, Woodstock Waterworks, open gym at a gymnastics place. Timber Ridge in Lake Geneva indoor water park. Great Wolf Lodge in Gurnee.

**Communications(Beth)** Send something to parents or post to facebook letting them know what our events earn and what we use that money for. At the end of the year have the kids make a nice thank you to give to all of our donors as a way to show our appreciation.

**Community Outreach(Sam)** Info coming next month

**Staff Appreciation (Sarah):** Custodian appreciation day 10/2: Put a sign on the Custodian's closet door. "Thank you for making our school sparkle". Give out Starburst. Cutout starts for each class to write their names on. We have 5 total custodians. Free idea for Grand Prize for Star Store. A police escort to school or touch a truck, No Stress fundraiser: Sarah's school does this. Donate money and if you participate you are entered in a raffle. Mom's night out.

**Box Tops (Kriss)-** box top popsicle contest is in full swing! The grade with the most box tops for 1st Trimester will win popsicle party . Ideas for next trimester: Box tops are popping up everywhere - popcorn party? And wear pajamas?

**Open for Comments:** Missoula theater is a traveling theater. They perform a play and the kids can join in the play (there are 60 spots) and parents pay to attend the play. They practice M-F and perform on Saturday. Request was made that not all of our non/VV events take place at Legend Lakes. Food for thought! Maybe Petersen Park or Veterans Park.

**Closing - Adjournment:** 7:47 Called by Lauren and Seconded by Kim