

## **August STP Meeting August 19, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm by Lori Deichstetter, President. Those in attendance were Dr. Kling, Katie Pall, Kim Tarman, Lori Khoury, and Amy Dahly.

### **Treasurer's Report-Maureen Lucenti:**

There was no treasurer's report since Maureen was not in attendance, but the checkbook was transferred over from Linda Wolf to Maureen Lucenti.

### **Secretary's Report-Katie Pall:**

The revised minutes from the May meeting were motioned for approval by Kim and seconded by Amy, and all were in favor.

### **Principals' Report-Dr. Kling:**

- The letter explaining the new 8 period schedule went out to parents last week.
- The first day of school is 8/27 and the students are dismissed at 12:00 pm.
- Students can get a sport physical on 8/28 & 8/29 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm for \$30. This is not in lieu of a regular physical.
- The coffee with the principal meetings is as follows: 8/29 for 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents, 9/5 for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents, and 9/12 for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents.
- 9/4 is the Open House and Bake Sale.
- School pictures are on 9/5.
- Map testing for the students will begin right away after school starts. 6<sup>th</sup> graders will take the tests from 9/2-9/5, 8<sup>th</sup> graders will take the tests from 9/8-9/12, and 7<sup>th</sup> graders from 9/15-9/18.
- The Magazine Drive assembly is 9/12 during the last 3 periods.
- The first staff development day is 9/19 and the subject will be RtI (response to intervention).
- The fall dance for grades 6-8 will be on 10/9.
- We have several staff changes this year. Nick Cikesh will replace Patty Edwards for 8<sup>th</sup> grade special education resources and Patty will move to 8<sup>th</sup> grade math and science. PE teacher Ms. Zelinske has left and will be replaced by Kelly Giffin. Marianne O'Keefe has left and she will be replaced in the library by Mariela Siegert. Mr. Perry has retired as Westfield custodian and will be replaced by Hugh Crebs. We also have a new part-time custodian, Luciano Hernandez.
- There are several new policies this year. **Attendance Policy** – If a student misses more than 10% or approx. 18 school days without valid cause, it will be considered chronic truancy and will be referred to the DuPage Regional Office of Education. **Lunch Time Food Guidelines** - Due to the increase of food allergies, students are not permitted to share food at lunch (that includes purchased food that is brought in such as pizza). **Student Lockers** - We would like to reiterate that the student lockers are the property of Westfield Middle School and are subject to inspection at any time. Backpacks, book bags, electronic devices, cell phones, and large purses must remain in the student's locker throughout the day. If they are found with such electronic devices or cell phones during the day, the item will be confiscated, a parent must pick the item up at school, and students will receive a detention.
- Dr. Kling as well as STP board members would like to find a way to increase meeting attendance from our Westfield parents. We would like to encourage all parents to attend our meetings which take place once a month. The meetings are a great place to learn what is happening at our school as well as trying to help improve our school. It was also discussed if parents feel informed enough about school and ways of having better communication with them. At future meetings, Dr. Kling may have students come in to show the video streaming carts work that the STP has purchased for the school or have staff come in to talk about their curriculum. We will put more info on the website such as the school improvement plan.

-Dr. Kling talked about how the teachers are ready to implement the new 8 period school day. One half of the teachers were previously teaching two content areas, so it is not a big adjustment for the other half to add another subject (all of our teachers are certified). Teachers will have students for 100 to 150 minutes and can integrate projects such as in Literature and Social Studies.

### **President's Report—Lori Deichstetter:**

#### **-New business**

-Lori handed out the updated STP list for this year.

-Lori will get the order forms for the Dunkin Donuts fundraiser to hand out to parents at Open House. We are looking for someone to head this fundraiser.

-On 8/27 from 9-11 am, Lori will be putting together the packets to hand out to parents at Open House on 9/4 that will include the following forms: Manna Gift Cards, Dunkin Donuts, Spirit Wear, Magazine Drive, and Cash Back for Schools. If you would like to help put together the packets on 8/27 or help distribute the packets during Open House, please contact Lori. (If you do help out, we will work around your need to go to your child's classroom)

-The first Gazette will be mailed on 10/9, any information you would like included is due to Lori by 9/28.

-There is one change to the STP meeting dates. Here is a list of the STP meeting dates for this school year.

9/16/08 @ 7:00 pm, **10/21/08 @ 7:00 pm (revised)**, 11/18/08 @ 7:00 pm, no December meeting, 1/20/09 @ 1:30 pm, 2/17/09 @ 7:00 pm, 3/17/09 @ 1:30 pm, 4/21/09 @ 6:00 pm, and 5/19/09 @ 1:30 pm.

### **Committee Reports**

**Hot Lunch** –Hot lunch forms will go out 9/2 and are due back 9/11. We have a new rep from Home Run Inn, Lawrence Harmon. Marty will ensure a smooth transition by being at the first few hot lunches. Counting Night will be 9/23 at 7:00pm at Westfield. Contact Kim Tarman if you would like to help. There are a few changes to the menu this year. We have added nachos with beef and cheese, pasta alfredo, an entrée salad with grilled chicken, and pancakes with sausage or bagels with cream cheese. We will no longer have sub sandwiches or fruit cups. Also, prices have gone up a little.

**-Magazine Drive** – The kickoff for the magazine drive will be during the last 3 periods on 9/12, each grade individually. The turn in days will be 9/16, 9/19, and 9/23. Late orders, wrap up and the limo lunch will be 9/26 and the pig races will be on 9/29 during social time. The total sales and profit were down last year partly due to a less experienced staff from Genesis who was not able to motivate the students as well as Mike had in the past. Mike is a very enthusiastic individual who will be at the kickoff this year and will be more involved to help motivate the students to participate.

**-Manna Gift Cards** – This is a very easy fundraiser to raise money for our school. Parents, please remember that you can use the gift cards to give as a gift or for yourself. There cards can be used to buy your everyday gas or groceries and help our school. We are hoping to have a better turnout than we did last year.

**-Nominating Committee** – We are still looking for committee chairs for this year. We would like to have one person that came from Erickson and one from DuJardin.

**Spirit Wear** - Order forms will be in the Gazette and they are due back to the school office by 9/22. We will have Laura include the forms with the packets given out to parents at Open House.

The next STP meeting will be September 16 at 7:00 pm

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Katie Pall, STP Secretary

August 25, 2008