



Board Members present: Dawn Scheck, Sue Sokolinski, Nancy Kerr, Kim Ambrose, Debbie Rempert, Laura Milhousen, Jan Wright, Somya Bergman, Marcie Mefford, Molly Haworth, Charlotte Vrba

Board Members absent: Deb Nielsen,

Other parents: Tina Bleakley, Julie Adams, Roberts Adams, Nata-Leigh Preas, Dawn Hartman, Sue Locke, Lisa Foydel, Sam Hewamanage, Karine Picchiatti, Heidi Pryor

Meeting called to order at 6:40pm

President Molly Haworth welcomed everyone and our guest speakers, Tina Bleakley from the School Board, and Karine Picchiatti from the Technology Committee

Speakers

- Karine presented the progress of the technology committee
 - The initiative started about 2 years ago with a need of \$200,000. So far, approximately \$100,000 has been raised. Funds have been generated from the school but much has come from grants and private donations.
 - Various committee members control the different areas needed. Kevin controls the corporate sponsorship. Sharon Kolb writes the scripts and communication. Susan Anderson writes the grant proposals.
 - Questions were asked of what the PTO needs and responses included whatever the school needs
 - The committee is open to ideas or ways to improve.
 - They will continue to survey parents and administrators as needs may change.
 - Positive feedback was given regarding the technology brochure.
 - The committee will talk with Tony Iglesias, Chief Information Officer for Batavia School District, in case he might have any input on devices to purchase and how to use them.
 - The committee will reassess if they still need to raise the remaining \$100,000.
 - Questions were asked regarding teacher feedback and training. The teachers feel well equipped with knowledge and like how the Chrome books accommodate flash. Their biggest issue is time. The technology is being used and not just sitting around. It would be nice for each teacher to have a website and have links relative to what is being taught.
- Tina introduced herself and her background and presented information from the school board.
 - AGS is Tina's home school and our liaison to the school board
 - If we or a group of parents have questions about anything, she can be reached at tina.bleakley@bps101.net



- All 6th graders are using Chromebooks. They found the books to be more affordable.
- Questions regarding the safety and regulation of the Chrome books are being reviewed.
- They are promoting technology throughout the district
- The 2013-14 budget has been passed
- For the second year, we have a balanced budget while working with over \$82 million.
- An athletic vision plan was presented to the district by Pat Brown and was approved. This vision pertains to the wear and tear of the athletic fields and facilities. The cost to repair everything would be around \$3.4 million but can be done gradually or as needed basis. Currently, groups are fundraising for this. Taxes will not increase. This subject will not be taken to a referendum. Current priorities are the football and baseball fields as they are not safe to play on or for the band to practice on due to holes and uneven turf.
- Each school is allotted capital improvement. AGS recently had \$963,000 work done.
- Questions have been raised to the district regarding Common Core Curriculum. Even though positive feedback from curriculum night occurred, please ask questions. Everyone is learning the requirements. If there are a group of parents with questions, please have a group discussion. It's about communication.
- A question was raised regarding the high school remediation policy. The remediation policy allows a student to retake a test if s/he didn't like the received score or s/he thinks s/he can improve. This policy was created after approaching focus groups consisting of administrators, students and parents in an effort to align with curriculum changes. This policy applies to a student who may be struggling with a subject or subject area and has guidelines to qualify.
- The district will be working with local districts including Kaneland and Wheaton with Virtual Online Learning and hope to have it functional in 4 years. This will not be for all students but for those who have to miss school for a time or want to learn a specialty like a foreign language. They will still have the opportunity to have a Batavia or classroom education.

Secretary-D.Scheck

- No report

Ways and Means-D.Rempert & Laura Milhousen

- Walk/Bike to School is October 9th. Heidi Files is the coordinator and has spoken with principal Jan Wright and gym teacher Mr. Parks. Grant money will pay for pedometers.
- The Clothing Sale went very well and generated \$5004.68



- Dine Around at Pal Joey's will occur on October 9th. The Chick-fil-A event generated around \$200. California Pizza Kitchen and Fresh Delite restaurants might be interested in a Dine Around the same night at the book fair.
- BoxTops is going well. Over 8,800 BoxTops have been collected so far.
- FunFair is going well. Nancy Kerr now has a co-chair, Cheri Albert. Cheri will be handling the financial aspect while Nancy tackles the creative. They are possible getting a corporate sponsor. They have a prizes chair. The theme is Winter Olympics Wonderland.

Treasurer-C. Vrba

- No report

1st V.P.-K.Ambrose

- Pledge sheets for Gator Gallop are due tomorrow, September 27th.
- Go to SignUp Genius for volunteer opportunities

2nd V.P.-S.Bergman

- Special appropriation ideas are due by tomorrow, September 27th.
- The finance committee will be meeting on Tuesday, October 1, 2013

President-M.Haworth

- No report

Principal-J.Wright

- Hooverwood will give a Watchdogs presentation at our next board meeting. It is a program involving fathers being involved at the school.

Communications-M.Mefford

- Discussion regarding the online directory occurred
 - Decided not to add all the head and helper room parents to the directory
 - A hard copy can still be acquired. A to Z will be sending a PDF copy soon. The school secretary, Caroline Batybarr, will send the PDF to any inquiring parent and they can print their own copy.

Classroom Support-N.Kerr

- We have 26 head room parents for 18 classrooms
- Halloween parties are being planned.
- We are using the free version of SignUp Genius.

Teacher Liaison-S.Sokolinski & D. Nielsen

- We had a good response from the teachers to donate to Gator Gallop.



New Business

- None

Drawing for the \$25 gift certificate went to Julie Adams

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dawn Scheck