

## **Kinderhaven Parent Board Meeting 5/22/14**

*Attendance record misplaced.*

### **Year End Wrap-Up – Sarah**

- Thank you to everyone for a great year! This is an awesome group. Tanner knocked Giving Tree out of the park and we are very grateful to Sarah for opening her home. Kindershop was a great again this year and raised more \$ than ever in addition to lots of stuff being donated to charity. Thanks to Julie and Chris! Sarah Steiner organized Teacher Appreciation Week with the help of the room parents and it was well received and appreciated by all of our teachers.
- Halloween Costume Drive will be the Board's Compassion Project at the beginning of the school year. All costumes donated to Kindershop were set aside and are at our storage unit. More on this in the FALL. Contact Sarah anytime if you have ideas.
- Farwells: Emily Houlihan, Jenny Mulliken, Tanner VanDusen, and Amie Marks will be leaving the board. More appropriate good byes to come at the End of Year Dinner.
- Welcome To: Annie Lenzke, Lizzy Jaworski, Eva Minnig, and Katie McCarney
- Please be sure to touch base with the person taking over your position if you are leaving or changing roles for next year.
- Next year's budget will be sent out over the summer.

### **Communications – Suzanne**

- *No changes for the April Notes.*

### **Classroom Redesign Recap - Suzanne**

- A quick overview of the latest grant and our progress toward implementing it was shared. It was suggested that we take before and after pictures of the classroom.

### **Director's Update--Penny**

- It's been a great year but ended so FAST.
- This year's Art Show was fantastic; many thanks to all of the volunteers who made it possible.
- Great Compassion Projects took place throughout the year. Red Class did the Pet Shop to raise money they donated to WAGS and Gentle Barn. Blue Class did a soup drive. Purple Class did a shampoo/soap drive and delivered cookies to our local fire department. In addition to these highlights each class participates in compassion focused lessons throughout the year.
- We will have a new teacher for Take Two next year: Lisa Moulton. She has a background in both Montessori and Reggio. Baby Reggio will be offered again as well as a class called Pets Galore. More extension classes may also be in the works.
- The teachers all worked on individual research projects throughout the year that they presented to one another recently. Our teachers are very dedicated and go above and beyond. Here are the topics they researched this year: How and Why to Include Music in Early Childhood Classrooms; Avoiding the Word NO with the Defiant Child; The Compassionate Difference: Why Teaching Children Compassion is Essential in Today's World; The Noncompliant Preschool Child; Creativity as an Essential Component to Early Childhood Curriculum; Benefits of Using Open Ended Items in the Classroom; How to Engage Non-Traditional Learners in the Preschool Environment; Discoveries, Observations, and Learnings Writing and Recognition.

- In addition to their research teachers also participate in a Journal Club in which they take turns reading and sharing relevant journal articles with one another.

#### **Treasurer's Report – Amie**

- Giving Tree Revenue \$20,365
- Kindershop Revenue \$3,409
- Daily Method Revenue \$275

#### **Survey – Lisa**

- Volunteering got very positive reviews. People again mentioned wanting to know who the room parents are sooner or more explicitly. Maybe add photos to the website next year. Also a who's who of the Parent Board to help the parent community.
- Readers – Such a popular activity – may need to tweek sign-ups so no one is left out.
- Giving Tree – lots of positive feedback. Suggestion – be clear about expected attire.
- Kindershop – Work vs. Money raised was questioned.
- Some also mentioned wanting more parent connection opportunities.

#### **Friends of Lake Forest Parks & Rec**

- Fred Jackson Golf Classic will be held June 6th.
- Big Head Todd and the Monsters & 10,000 Maniacs (minus Natalie Merchant) will be playing at the Fourth of July event this summer.

### **Upcoming Important Dates MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**See you in the Fall.** *(Also a great song by Brendan James. Look it up – it will be worth it.)*