

Kinderhaven Parent Board Meeting 9/19/13

Present:, Sarah Lockhart, Suzanne Sands, Molly O'Neil, Penny Robbins, Nicole Phelan, Chris Bjork, Julie Sommers, Emily Houlihan, Lisa Lersch, Tanner VanDusen, Sarah Steiner, Emily O'Brien, Joe Mobile, Amie Marks

Absent: Jane Duncan & Jenny Mulliken,

Welcome Back – Sarah

- Thank you to all for getting us off to a great start. Everyone is off and running in their respective roles.
- Introductions were made so everyone could connect faces with names.
- Please remember to keep track of what you do throughout the year by keeping a log of some kind so the next person who takes on your role will have a history to use. Keep your files in a way that they can also be passed on.
- This year one of our goals is to do a better job of communicating with parents about how the money we raise is used to support Kinderhaven. We will be trying to make this information more visual and accessible.

Treasurer's Report – Amie

- **A budget proposal was shared and approved for the 2013-14 school year.**
- Tax-exempt letters are available (contact Amie) if you are making purchases for Kinderhaven or if you are seeking donations from businesses.
- Check requests are on the Our Members page of the website. They should be turned in to Amie.
- Accounting for Kinderhaven Parent Board was discussed briefly for new members.
- Talk with Sarah and Amie if you need more money than has been allotted for your activity in our budget.

Social Committee Update - Emily H.

- Purple Parent Night – Invitations went out. The potluck sign up is online and board members will be getting an email asking you to sign up.
- Red Parent Night is in the works.
- Blue Parent Night is in the works. (*Thanks to a post meeting huddle.*)
- A possible all school Parent Paddle Party is also being looked into.

Director's Update--Penny

- School is off to a FANTASTIC start this year. Ms. K our new Purple Class teacher is super enthusiastic and a great addition to the staff.
- The Purple class is studying trains and already has a possible field trip in the works. The Blue class is studying butterflies. The Red class is studying cities and skylines.
- The teachers are all asked to work on research projects throughout the year that will positively impact their teaching. Topic proposals are due in October and Penny is hoping to have some of the teachers share their work with the Board at some point.
- The teachers are also working on ways to be more visible in the community this year. Suggestions made by board members: Deerpath Art League's Emerging Artists Program, Installation at the Train Stations, PR in local publications for Compassion Projects & Art Show
- Grant Proposals:
 - **Outdoor Area Improvements (between the classroom and playground): Total \$1300**

- Sundial \$100
- Music Wall \$250
- 3-Way Acrylic Easel \$225
- Wooden Garden Arbor \$250 (*Gratitude & Happiness Ribbons Project*)
- Kids Bench w/ Safari Theme (near mural) \$75
- Adult Bench (iron butterfly) \$400

APPROVED Unanimously

- **Staff Development Opportunity @ Preschool of the Arts, Madison WI: Total \$1000**
 - “The Arts as a Language for Learning” Saturday, October 26th 9 AM – 3 PM
 - \$85 per staff member
 - Gas and one meal.

APPROVED Unanimously

- There might be another staff development opportunity in St. Louis in March.
- The Kinderhaven Music CDs will be out in mid-October.

Parent Volunteer Update – Sarah S. & Nicole

- Sarah is working with the Room Parents and they are all set. She will be meeting with them as needed throughout the year.
- Nicole is managing all other volunteer sign-ups at this point. We are trying to continue to move toward using more electronic tools such as Volunteer Spot for sign ups. We have created a group page that will now be able to house all sign-ups for everything Kinderhaven. We hope to be able to support other functions that need sign-ups throughout the year such as social events, fundraising events and possibly the classroom wishlist as well.

PR Update – Molly

- Fall Drop-in will be November 15th and publicity is in the works.
- Open House will be in January and the community boards have been reserved.
- We discussed making it a goal to support getting more articles placed in local publications around major events at our school.

Nutrition Update – Sarah L. on behalf of Jenny

- New name: Nutrition, Health & Wellness
- Rather than publishing a newsletter the website will be updated regularly with fun facts, information, recipes, and photos of the lessons in class.
- The theme for the year will be: Whole Foods Whole Body
- Tastings and tasting sheets will continue as part of lessons.
- Possible Wellness Week in the Spring with information in the lobby for parents, activities during school for kids. Penny suggested it may be good to align this effort with the April 17th “Field Day” already on the calendar. k

Upcoming Important Dates MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 10th Purple Parent Night

October 14th NO SCHOOL

October 17th Parent Board Meeting 9:30 AM CROYA *Picture Day

