



WFAPAC October 17th, 2024

Welcome & Introductions: Caroline - Meeting Called to Order at 8:34

- Introductions - name, position here at WFAP, connection to school
- Openings - still looking for someone to take over as chair for next year, Kaleidoscope, Summit and pre-k all need house reps still
- Event Updates
 - Book fair success - Tara Bandy did a great job at the WCS book fair - thank you! Phoenix Books was great. We have a tentative date for the spring book fair at ABS. The Phoenix Book fair really has great books for the older kids as well. The Phoenix rep was great at getting books as asked for within a couple of hours. This is a great connection.
 - Upcoming Craft Show - We need help the day of the event. Please if you have some time, reach out. Erin and Lindsay are doing a great job. The money we make comes from crafter registrations, so the money has come in. We need to have people do a parking shift. This does not have to be an all day shift. If you have any ideas of how to get parking help please let Caroline or Christine know. The event has raised almost \$11,000. There is help needed inside the event as well. We don't want to burn people out. Many hands make light work. Marybeth Morrissey shared that she has connections that might work in bringing help in.

Financial Report: Christine - we have an updated budget for October

- Update on annual fund progress - the Annual Fund growth has been impressive. We had a large number of donations. The number is \$11,442 for the Annual Fund. The goal is \$14,000. It is possible that we might reach our goal. The envelope drive has made a positive impact. It appears that we have reached new people this year. There was a box on the card that people could check if they wanted to help in school. This list will be given to the TAs. There was a discussion about having a thermometer to show the growth. We will continue to discuss how we can keep the consistency of messaging and also understand the function of the WFAP as well. We will continue to push the messaging. We want people to know who we are and what we are all about, we are more than just fundraising.
- Grant presentation - Grant Package was presented by Christine Higgins. Rachel Allard made a motion to approve the grant package as presented, Mia Nowlan Allard seconded the motion. The package was approved unanimously. Christine will be notifying the grant applicants. There is a pool of money that was not spent in the grant package as \$10,000 was allocated. More discussion will be had around the use of the grant funds.

Angela Arsenault thanks the world language staff for finding and requesting appropriate materials, especially videos.

Administration Report: Greg Marino - Thank you for the approval of the grant package. We have learned a lot from the unplanned evacuation. We have had 2 after action reviews and these were both very productive meetings. We had a great response to the parent surveys. Themes emerging from these meetings - communication from school to caregivers during the event could be better - we will identify a dedicated communications director and a backup for that person. We will increase stores of food and water for emergency access. We will update an incident command flow chart for when we remain on campus but cannot be in the building. An FAQ is being generated for caregivers. Google surveys were confusing so the survey will be used for specific events. Cell phone coverage is an issue at WCS. We can put wifi boosters outside the building so we can make wifi calls happen. We will increase the hand held radios reception so those are more effective. There will be a more comprehensive summary that will be going out in the next couple of weeks.

School Board: Angela Aresenault - the board approved a 1.2% increase for next year's budget. This is \$103,000,000. This is the middle ground from what was proposed. There was a discussion about what the specific cuts were going to look like. There is not a specific list at this point. Class sizes are increasing and it seems that Williston takes great hits. CVSD is taking gigantic hits at the state level.

A question was asked about how to be more involved. In order to help, please stay engaged. There is a budget forum on October 22nd. This is at CVU and it will be hybrid. There is time set aside at every school board meeting for community comments. Everyone will be heard. Speak to your state representatives and school board members about how education is funded.

Staff Reports:

ABS PreK-2: Becca Ashford - Explorers (K) have been settling into kindergarten and learning all about how to be good friends and take care of themselves, each other and their places and spaces. They have been working on early literacy and math skills as well and doing some nature based inquiry centered around seasonal changes. Thanks to the WFAP folks who support their learning!

Second graders recently went on a field trip to Isham Farm, where they completed a corn maze, took a hike and played with the chickens and cows. Thank you WFAP for supporting this event. They are starting a unit around elections, where they will eventually vote on a new team name.

WCS 3-4: Marybeth Morrissey - EQX: finished community work focusing on wildcat way - lots of outside play and cooperative games. Four Winds Nature Science started and is very successful. The trip to the Flynn for Ballet Hispanico was awesome - thank you WFAP.

Kaleidoscope: Students are learning about the geography and history of Vermont in preparation for our trip to the VT Statehouse at the end of October. We had a great Four Winds session learning all about insects.

WCS 5-8: Andrea Griffin - there is a candidate forum tomorrow. The students have been making posters. The 7th and 8th grade will attend in person. We have a great slate of candidates for the forum. The first school dance is next week. This is for 7 - 8th grade.

Student Services: Chris Ford - no report

DEI: No representative

Essential Arts: Lyn Porter - The new faculty members are settling and getting more comfortable with our systems. There is great art in the school and all areas of the EA are doing great things with the students.

Cara Clopton received this email and was extremely surprised, but so well deserving. I want to congratulate you for being selected for the quarterly Rosen Award. The Rosen Publishing Northern New England School Librarian award is a new award that recognizes VSLA members who provide outstanding service to their school community or to the school library community. The award includes a set of Rosen Publishing print titles for the winner's school, a year's subscription to a Rosen database, and a letter of recognition sent to the school superintendent.

Several of your colleagues nominated you and we will be making the official announcement at the VSLA Board meeting on Wednesday. Hopefully you will be able to attend!

Lyn Porter was nominated for a recognition and is currently a semifinalist for the Wasabi Bowl and Boston Globe Honor Teachers. This honor comes with being recognized on the field with the other recipients on the field at the Wasabi Bowl being held at Fenway Park on December 28th. It was stated in the recognition letter that over 1200 teachers had been nominated and Lyn is one of 12 semifinalists. There is still information coming to her about this award.

Walk and Roll to school - Lynn McClintock asked Lyn Porter to bring up this program and how do we get more students walking. She would love any ideas that would get more kids involved. Please share any ideas that might get more kids involved with Lynn. It was stated that teacher connections help and get a neighborhood buddy to go with you. There are incentives and a punch card and with a chance to win a prize at the end.

Upcoming Events & Opportunities:

Craft Show: November 2nd - We need help the day of the event. Please, if you have some time, reach out. Erin and Lindsay are doing a great job. The money we make comes from crafter registrations, so the money has come in. We need to have people do a parking shift. This does not have to be an all day shift. If you have any ideas of how to get parking help please let Carolyn or Christine know. The event has raised almost \$11,000. There is also help needed inside the event as well.

- Need help day of event with both parking and assisting crafters/shoppers inside
- Walk to school
- Evening events, coffee with the Principal, other opportunities to connect with the school community
- November meeting canceled, next meeting will be December 12th

Meeting adjourned at 10:32