

**Cherokee APT Meeting Minutes – February 15, 2012**

 ***Cherokee School – IRC***

**Attendees**

*Board Members (24 total)*: David Bedrin, Bob Bolin, Mike Borkowski, Michelle Carlson, Kristen DeNoble, Jeff Folker, Katie Ford, Liz Gescheidle, Michelle Gramza, Mary Kay Hanlon, Catherine Harling, Connie Hollingsworth, Jen Lower, Mary Manzer, Kirsten Maxwell, Christy Miks, Tiffany Notz, Lindsay Seaman, Michelle Shinn, Natalie Torcolese, Ellen Trager, Leanne Trela, Felicia Watkins, Dez Witte

*Guests (4 total)*: Lynn Bertram, Kylie Klienhans, Anne Simons, Anissa Chaudhry

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Folker at 9:35 am with quotes of Gratitude as part of our APT Yearly Theme. “There are two kinds of gratitude: The sudden kind we feel for what we are given: and the larger gratitude for what we give.”

**Special Guest – Anne Simmons – Quest Foodservice**

* Anne shared a number of Vegetarian Options that are available. Hummus is made fresh in the building every time it’s served. No sesame is involved. Veggie Wraps were served, along with Tuna fish wraps.
* Building has Soy Milk available, need to notify foodservice so inventory is adequate.
* Foodservice available for catering at school parties.
* APT Members gave feedback that they do not like dye in the food for their kids. Suggested finding vegetables that are the color of the theme, verses dying them.

**President Report - Jeff Folker**

Jeff announced that Dez Witte has been nominated as incoming Cherokee APT President and will be voted on at the March 7th District APT Meeting.

*Spirit of 67 – Katie Ford*

* The Faculty Review is on February 24th at DPM auditorium. Shows are at 4 pm & 7 pm. Tickets can be purchased at the door. This is a district wide event, not just DPM.
* Home Tour is Thursday, May 3rd. We need volunteers to sign up for the Cherokee home.
* This year the home tour committee is selling "shout out" ads in the program book in addition to traditional ads. These ads can offer congrats to children, good luck at DPM to a 4th grader, thanks to faculty and staff, etc. for more information contact Kristen De Noble (Cherokee Spirit liaison) or Christiana Walsh, program book chair, christianawalsh@hotmail.com.

**Open Lands – Anissa Chaudhry, Environmental Education Coordinator**

Anissa provided an overview of all the summer camps offered at Lake Forest Open Lands for grades Pre-K through 7th Grade. She handed out a brochure that detailed the options. All the information can be found at the [www.LFOLA.org](http://www.LFOLA.org) web site or you can contact Anissa with any questions about Open Lands 847-234-3963.

**Treasurer’s Report – Lindsay Seaman**

* We are on track with the budget.

**Teacher/Staff Report – Kylie Kleinhans**

* In kindergarten we had an opportunity to visit Time Zone Kindertown. The children had a wonderful time participating in all of the hands on activities related to community helpers. We just celebrated the 100th day of kindergarten on Monday! We are wrapping up our bear unit and we will soon be moving on to the five senses. Team read continues to be a wonderful support system for the children and all of the children are now bringing home books weekly to read to their families.
* First grade is in the middle of our study of Africa.  The students learn what a continent is, the two major rivers of Africa, and 3 geographic regions.  We also discuss the people of Africa, artwork, pottery, etc.  We will take a break from this study for the next two weeks in order to study Abraham Lincoln and George Washington in honor of Presidents’ Day.  First grade students are also raising money to donate to Heifer International – an organization that provides livestock to needy families around the world.  The children are encouraged to bring in loose change throughout the month of February.  At the end of the month, we will count the money, vote on what type of livestock we want to buy and graph the results.  We will then purchase an animal for a family in need.  The students were introduced to the organization through a children’s book that told the true story of a family in Africa who was able to earn money and send their children to school by selling milk from a goat that was given to them by Heifer International.
* Second grade is starting their non-fiction unit in writing and shared reading. We are learning the different texts features of a non-fiction book. We are also learning how to write a non-fiction report about our observation and animals. In math, we are moving into a new unit, which is fractions. We are learning how we are similar and different than Canada. We are getting postcards and some of our Stanley’s back from his journey around the room. The students will do an oral presentation on where their Stanley went and what he saw.
* In third grade we are reading a variety of fiction texts and writing fiction stories. Our reading focus skills for the past few weeks have been comparing and contrasting and theme. We are also doing a Dr. Seuss “Hats off to Reading” project in which students read a realistic fiction, biography, and mystery book. We will celebrate our reading accomplishments on Dr. Seuss’s birthday in March with a “Seuss Celebration.” In math, we are currently in our Geometry unit and continue to prepare for the ISAT test coming up in March. In Social Studies we are studying the Great Lakes Indians. We are researching in small groups with books and Internet resources and we are learning a lot about Indians in the Great Lakes region. We will go to the Mitchell Museum in Evanston this week!
* The students continue their journey across the United States, in the See the USA simulation. Students are incorporating 21st Century learning skills in this interactive unit. Please visit each homeroom’s See the USA website to see the students’ projects. After this unit, we will then begin our Illinois unit in social studies. Students will gain information about the state from maps, a variety of texts, and supplemental materials. In math we are starting Unit 7, which focuses on fractions and probability. In reading we will begin fantasy novel. In writing we will begin poetry.
* Miss Kleinhans then gave an update as her role as Emotional Wellness Mentor at Cherokee
* She gave an overview of Stand Tall Molly and Melon – all teachers used as part of the Honesty & Integrity Character Trait –
* Teachers do mini lessons which take 10 to 15 minutes. There are book lists tied into each character trait.
* Spirit Assemblies are tied into the character trait. They include examples, then introducing the next character traits. “Gotchas” which are read out loud at the assemblies reinforce the character traits.
* Bucketfilling – everyone is doing at their own level. Literature goes a long. Character Counts is another curriculum. Universal values.
* Every teacher has the character traits posted in their room.
* She shared a Parent Handout which covers things in the curriculum.

*Special Events – Connie Hollingsworth/Catherine Gildersleeve*

* Thank you to everyone who helped with Winterfest - 280 students participated along with 80 volunteers.
* Inquiring Minds, will be Thursday, February 23rd. 6:30 – 8:00 Fun and exciting, please sign up.

Community Service – Cyncy Schacher/Ellen Trager –

* District wide book drive Feb. 1 – 15 – goal is 5 to 6 books per child. Donations for Bernie’s Book bank, Sheridan is at 7,000 – we are 2,500 – well over 10,000 books.

*Spirit Wear – Jen Lower -*

* Order Forms now
* New Baseball Ringer T-Shirt now available.
* Order Form on APT Web Site.
* Cheetah Wear order opportunity will run February 3 - 22. Watch Dr. Shinn's Friday newsletter in February for the link to the order form.

*Parent Awareness – Natalie Torcolese*

***UPCOMING LEAD EVENTS FOR PARENTS:***

**Monday, March 13 – 7:00 – 8:30 pm – Lake Bluff Middle School Library: Finding Joy in the Journey This** presentation is for parents of children in preschool through grade 8. As parents, we focus on school success, sports, after school activities, homework.  But what about the social and emotional skills our children need for life?  In this workshop, Dr. Wojcik will show us what truly matters for our child’s happy and healthy existence!

Dr.  Jenny Wojcik is the Superintendent at Rondout School District 72 in Lake County, Illinois. A veteran educator for over 30 years, she has worked in schools as a teacher, school principal, central office administrator and superintendent.

**Monday, March 15 – 7:00 – 8:30 pm – LFHS David Miller Theatre: Facebook for parents** For parents of children in Grades 7-12

Devorah Heitner, Media Studies professor at Lake Forest College, will present information to parents regarding their teens’ use of Facebook and social media. Are kids trading in real-life social skills for online activity? What are kids really DOING on Facebook? How can parents relate to their kids using social media? Join us for an information session and discussion as Professor Heitner examines the proliferation of Facebook, Twitter, and texting in our families’ lives and how parents can manage and understand the consequences of social media. Sponsored by the LFHS APT and LEAD. This event is being held at Lake Forest High school from 7-8:30 p.m.

**Saturday, April 14 – 11:30 am – 1:30 pm - The Blessing of Not Being Perfect -**Luncheon and workshop for girls in grades 5-8 and their mothers -The Grille on Laurel - $20.00 per person.

**Friday, April 26 – Sunday, April 28 – Upscale Rummage Sale to Benefit LEAD Donations** accepted Saturdays, March 3 & March 10 from 10 am – 3 pm at Cardinal Health Midwest Distribution Center, 3651 Birchwood Drive, Waukegan

In partnership with Renée Baldwin, a well-known community volunteer, LEAD is holding the Upscale Rummage Sale from Friday, April 26-Sunday, April 28 with proceeds benefiting LEAD's programs and initiatives to empower parents and families.

Your donation will have a direct impact on LEAD and our community.

The Upscale Rummage Sale is a highly anticipated community event launched by Renée Baldwin over 12 years ago, and this year, LEAD is the beneficiary of Renée's flair for all things rummage!

We anticipate a spectacular event–twice the size of previous sales, thanks to Cardinal Health–who is donating the space.

Drop off your GOOD STUFF: Clothes, furniture, home decor, jewelry, lamps, sporting goods, hardware, baby supplies, kitchen, artwork, holiday, vintage, hats & scarves, boutique items, and more!

When:
Saturdays, March 3 & 10; 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
More dates to come! Where:
Cardinal Health, Midwest Distribution Center, 3651 Birchwood Drive. Waukegan, IL

**Principal’s Report – Dr. Michelle Shinn**

* Thank you for Winterfest.
* Superintendent Search – got the candidate we wanted. He was the most student centered. Choose to stay in a smaller district, when given a chance to go to a larger one. Likes being in the trenches. His district is a little bigger than LF. He was attached to area because we are investing in education, unlike Michigan which continues to face serious cuts in education. He is planning on living in the district. Will have a community reception. He is planning to introduce in July a 100 day plan. Very literate in 21st Century Learning. He has a World Language background. How he can tell a good teacher is if he sits in the classroom, if the kids are engaged when I sit in the classroom after 10 minutes, I know they are learning. Balance of listening and being active. Trying to get him involved with the Middle School Principle search. Dr. Shinn believes we got the right person.
* Kindergarten enrollment is very low, 35 students, 28 are Mandarin. In the process of hiring a Mandarin Teacher for 2nd Grade.
* Thank you for help with the search for APT President
* Monitor in the lobby. 3 things can be changed. Calendar is from the District. Video Pictures – word. Ticker is available feed or announcement at the bottom.
* Megan Eatherton had a baby girl – Reese Elizabeth on February 7th.
* Mrs. LeMahieu will be back March 9. Elementary School Choir.
* GOTR has 15 participants and starts March 6th.

**Committee Reports/Announcements**

*Fine Arts/Visiting Author – Tiffany Notz/Dustin O’Regan –*

* The Feb. 1 performance of String Blue – musical performance was very successful. The kids loved it.

*Board of Education - Colleen Berto/Megan Stockton*

* The report on the Steinhart investigation will be presented at the February Board meeting.

*Yearbook- Mike Borkowski*

* If anyone would like to join the yearbook committee we could use additions. 2nd half of the book is the special events pages.
* 1st half of book submitted – looks great
* Cover almost done – looks great

Time Zone – Michelle Newman/Felicia Watkins –

* Getting ready to host fourth grade for the Illinois unit.

*Food Service – Lauren Turrelli –*

* Idea for National Nutrition month in March, possibility of paying for a school wide healthy snack and will work to make the 15 days more of a school wide effort for healthy eating vs. just a few kids at a special lunch.

*Emotional Wellness – Liz Gescheidle/Michelle Carlson -*

* The character trait for February is Respect. Teachers are incorporating this into their class activities.

**Old Business**

* None

**New Business**

* None

The meeting adjourned at 10:58.

**Next APT Meeting:**

Wednesday, April 18th, from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. in the Cherokee IRC

Respectfully Submitted,

Liz Gescheidle, Cherokee APT Vice-President