



## MEETING MINUTES

### Tuesday, December 5th, 2023

#### **Call to Order**

- Call to Order by Megan Seliga at 8:45am.
- Motion to approve the minutes from November 6th. Motion Approved.

#### **D90 Administration Report: Dr. Condon**

- Larry Gartski Retirement: The principal of Roosevelt Middle School will be retiring at the end of the year, after 22 years at the school and 15 years as Principal. The search for a new principal is underway, and entering the next phase. Two hybrid teams consisting of faculty, staff, and parents will give opinions on final five candidates. The parent participants were recommended by PTO. Final choice will be made by the end of January and there will be winter events where parents & caregivers can meet the new principal.
- Alison Hawley Resigning: D90 will be posting for a new Director of Curriculum. It will be a 6-8 week process, with a goal for a new Director by June.
- November Board Meeting: Focused on Student Achievement Presentation. D90 continues to grow and scored well on Illinois State School Reports.
- Safety and Security Update: December 18th.
- Literacy Curriculum Review: The anticipated process is not expected to change. 30-35 faculty & staff are finishing their review of research. Now until end of school year, they'll review 10 curricula material. Those 35 voices have equal weight, and the final result will be based on the consensus of the group. There will be a recommendation in December 2024, with a launch in January 2025.
- PTO and Belongingness have been crucial - thank you to these Committees
- Have a wonderful Winter Break.

**Parent Question:** In the IL State School Report Card, Willard was 101st, while Lincoln was 50th. Willard seemed particularly to score lower in Math. What accounts for this difference?  
Answer: Students can be exemplary, but the ranking is a measure of growth and how every student is being served. It's not only how many kids met the threshold, but also how they were challenged. Also, D90 is a small district, so small ends can be a big factor unlike in larger districts. The report only uses 3rd-4th grade data, based on 88 students. This is the 2nd year Willard has achieved Exemplary Status and the 1st Year that Lincoln has been Exemplary.

## **Principal's Report: Diane Wood**

- Thank you to the PTO for dinner during Parent-Teacher Conferences.
- Teacher Grant Process: We've started the process, with collaboration from Megan Seliga and Camille McLamb on what needs to be submitted.
- E-Learning Plan: D90 will no longer have snow days. Teachers will help kids learn to log on to the devices and access e-learning.
- Communications Survey: Stephanie Rath is eager to hear the best ways to communicate with parents from a district perspective.
- Winter Gear: Please send your students dressed for the weather! They must have snow pants and boots. The students have outdoor recess if it's 10 degrees or warmer, and recess in library or auditorium if not.
- Kindergarten Information Night: Feb 8th. There will be lots of information about the all-day program and a more robust explanation than last year.
- Data Review: We'll have a data review on Dec. 8th. The teams will look at growth throughout the school year and discuss enrichment and scaffolding to build skills. There will also be data reviews in February and April.
- Real-life Math: baking, wrapping, and other holiday activities are a great way to build math skills.
- Have a wonderful break!

**Parent Question:** Will the winter parties be scattered? Answer: Yes, they'll be planned according to what works for the teacher & room parents. Most teachers want the party toward the end of day.

**Parent Question:** Can siblings come to the class parties? Answer: Unfortunately, siblings cannot attend.

## **Presidents' Report: Megan Seliga**

- Volunteer Information Archive: We'd love for Board Members and Committee Chairs to write a PDF or Google Doc on what is involved in that role: specific tasks, dates, duties. It would be ideal to have all of these saved where they can be accessed by future volunteers.

## **Treasurer's Report: Emily Nash**

- 5K Registration: Registration is open and we have \$550 in registrations so far. We should include in the Weekly Wizard
- PTO Donations: Encourage year-end giving to the PTO through RevTrak.
- Expenses: All expenses should be in by the end of the year so they can be paid out.

## **Secretary's Report: Kathleen Luttschyn**

- Thanks to Megan and Camille for helping me last month when I was traveling.

### **VP-Communications Report: Hadley Lewno**

- No update

### **VP-Volunteers Report: Rachel Dardis**

- Winter Parties: Email was sent to Room Parents regarding planning winter parties.
- Specials Teacher Gifts: Room Parents can ask if people want to donate to Specials Teachers in one lump sum.

### **VP-Technology: Nikki Kidd**

- Scholarship Info: now live on Website.
- New Hosting Website: We need to move website to a new hosting platform, because we're currently on an outdated, less secure system. It will likely be Squarespace or Wix.
- New Email Organization System: The PTO also needs an organizational email system for the Board documents and archives. This will have budget implications. Diane Wood: Thank you Nikki for your expertise.

### **School Board Liaison Report: Erin Dowdall**

- Committee of the Whole Meeting: Held November 7th. The committee discussed the IL School Report Cards. D90 is doing very well overall. These state reports focus on student growth year to year rather than proficiency. Education is longitudinal and D90 kids were already scoring relatively high, while other schools may have had to kickstart their kids.

### **Fun Lunch**

- Fun Lunch will start the first week back after break. Ordering is open. Melissa Hanses is taking over from Courtney Skelton, who is moving out of town. Thanks to Courtney for all her volunteering.

### **Yoga: Dave Driscoll**

- Yoga will be on Wednesdays, starting on 1/24 in the auditorium. Signups are open and will close on the 17th.
- Possible Action Item: put flyers in Thursday Backpack Mail.

### **Chess Club: Camille McLamb for Clelita Mathole**

- Chess Club is set up and ready to go. Now that it's fully back in person, the coaches will need to have background checks. We are unsure who runs these.

### **Legacy and Slowfire**

- Courtney Mooney will set up signups.

### **Family Care: Ashley Graves**

- Winter Coat Drive: Great success, thanks to everyone who donated.

### **Fundraising Committee: Megan Seliga for Meredith Maienza**

- Fundraiser will be January 20th at One Lake Brewery.
- It might just be a parents' night out and not an auction.

**Parent Question:** Perhaps there could be an early bird special or ticket sales before the Holiday Break? Answer: Good idea, will share with committee.

### **Misc. Items**

- Specials Needs Students & Test Scores: Megan Seliga: I'm very thankful that special needs kids are truly included in Willard classrooms. Their inclusion might affect Willard test scores.
- Wizard Weekly: Melissa Hanes: We've had feedback that the newsletter could be better organized. It's possible that it doesn't read well on mobile devices. Ideas: Better use of Instagram & socials. Possible texting system like Roosevelt has through Powerschool.

### **Adjournment**

- Meeting Adjourned at 9:44 AM.