President Melissa Persaud called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. There were 11 people in attendance. The February meeting minutes were approved.



**Thrivent Action Teams Special Presentation – Gregory Schraufnagel**

* Thrivent has been around for 100 years (used to be Lutheran Brotherhood). Thrivent is a non-profit and member-owned so profit goes back to the community (250M last year). They give back through “Choice Dollars” that can be donated to non-profit organizations or community improvement projects.
* Action Team – As a member of Thrivent, you have access to 2 action teams per year. Action teams are defined to support the community. You get $250.00 for an action team and t-shirts to put on events to support local efforts. All the profit then goes to the cause. The only rule is it has to better the community.
* Membership is individual and comes through having a Thrivent product.
* If you have a large event, you can split the event into grades to enable more funding towards the event (Jefferson Jaunt perhaps).
* Application process is online through a “Make a Difference” link. You will know within 24 hours if you have been approved and you will have the card within 10 days, which is made directly to the member.
* The board discussed reaching out to parents to see who is a member and has interest in creating an action team to benefit the Jefferson school.

**Principal Report – Mr. Hansen**

* The Wonders (McGraw Hill) curriculum was adopted at the last school board meeting and will be rolled out in the fall for K – 5. March 25th will be the first staff development for the new curriculum. There is a 7-year staff development plan included in the package. There will also be technology (iPads, chrome books and smart boards) included in the rollout.
* MCA testing is coming up on April 11th and will end on May 11th for reading, math & science. Reading and math testing will take place for grades 3, 4 and 5. Science testing is for grade 5 only. There will be 2 testing locations used (computer lab & inquiry room) which will condense the time and window to allow maximum time for students to prepare. Pearsonaccessnext.com is the website that will have items samplers to practice.
* Staff came to a consensus on the new mission statement for Jefferson:
  + - * We Aim High
      * We Accept Challenges
      * We Create Endless Possibilities

**Community Curriculum Advisory Council (CCAC) Update – Jessica Wegener**

* The district is looking for volunteers for serve on a task force that will develop recommendations on updating existing and new classroom space to provide adequate space for the next 10 – 15 years. If interested, complete the application form on the district website.
* There is a proposed change from reporting class rank to deciles rank for high schools only. Many schools are moving away from class rank in favor of reporting deciles. Class rank would still be available to students and parents if requested. Research was completed with college application requirements and it was shown that class rank was generally not one of the most important factors in the process. Currently, some students are focusing too much on selecting courses to improve their class rank. The committee was in favor of the change and to cutover at one time. There will be a parent survey conducted and subsequent decision sometime this year.
* The district is rolling out College Foundations Math to all 9th grade students in intermediate algebra (grade level). This will cover approximately 60% of the students. The program has been at Moundsview and was piloted at Anoka High School with positive outcomes. The program was put in place to better prepare students for higher-level math due to lagging scores. There will now be 3 trimesters of intermediate algebra that will include 1 credit of College Foundations Math spread across the 3 trimesters. Students learn how to take notes and study skills, including the CORNELL note taking structure.

**Volunteer Report – Cory Knapp**

* Currently there are 335 volunteer applications. 288 of those volunteers have been active (1+ hours). The total volunteer hours through the 7th are 2,304.25 hours.
* Upcoming events: 1st grade, Kindergarten & 3rd grade field trips, movie night, Blaine High School Scholarship, picture day, VIP breakfast, staff appreciation, art & academics night, track & field w/volunteer breakfast.

**Treasurer’s Report – Alex Olson**

The updated budget (income & expense) was reviewed. Activity since last meeting:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Beginning Balance** | **Cash In** | **Cash Out** | **Ending Balance** |
| February 18, 2016 – March 10, 2016 | $18,475.16 | $0.00 | $396.61 | $18,078.55 |

* **Cash Out:** Citizen of the Month treats ($28.08), Emergency Fund winter gear ($48.90), Teacher Reimbursement ($200.00), Bank Service Charge ($3.00)
* April 1 will be the deadline for teacher reimbursement requests.

**Update on Upcoming Events**

1. **April 1st – Movie Night – Alex Olson / Brady Bargman**

* Hotel Transylvania 2 was the movie selected
* Doors open at 6:30 pm and movie starts at 7 pm

1. **April 15th – VIP Breakfast – Missy Persaud / Paula Blair**

* The event will be held from 8:15 – 9:00 am. There will be a special note/gift that students will be able to send home with their VIP.
* Forms will be going home after spring break and are due with payment by April 4th
* The menu will be similar to last year with additional strawberries based on feedback
* Teachers will be asked to park at the Little League field to allow for parking

1. **Scholarship Committee – Alex Olson**

* 2 PTO (each $500) 1 for Wendy Wallace ($500), 1 in memory of former teacher Dolores Haugen ($595)
* 3 parents and 3 staff members are already signed-up for the committee. We are still seeking others to be involved with the committee! Please reach out if interested.
* Decided that the form will remain the same for this year’s scholarship
* Applications due on April 4th from interested students

1. **Family Meal Nights – Jessica Wegener**

* Received information from Chilis (15% with minimum of $500) and Buffalo Wild Wings (10% no minimum).
* Chipotle – get dates for spring
* Which Which – find out about their program
* The PTO does not need additional funds to cover the current committed budget items, so we will discuss if we move forward with a fundraiser at the next meeting.

1. **PTO Board Nominations – Missy Persaud**

* Elections for the 2016 – 2017 school year will occur during the May 12th PTO meeting by a simple majority vote. We are seeking nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
* Nominations must be submitted by April 8th and will be read at the April 14th PTO meeting.
* The nomination information and dates will be sent out to all students with the VIP Breakfast flier.

**Old Business**

1. **5th Grade Party**

* $500 was raised from beef jerky sales in addition to some community donations
* The committee will use the $500 in the PTO budget towards t-shirts

1. **Prior Funding Requests**

* Arts and Academics – check provided
* Choir – waiting on a receipt for the t-shirts.

**New Business**

1. **New Funding Requests:**

* VSC Contract for 2016-2017 was approved for $4,330.00 (increase of 3%). This includes 20 hours for next year to be matched by the district.
* Principal Mark Hansen will put together some options for the remaining PTO funds to be reviewed at the next meeting.

**Parent/Teacher Open Forum**

* A concern about assigned seats in the lunchroom was discussed and Mr. Hansen will check in with the Lunchroom staff about the concern.  Assigned seats are a necessary step that sometimes is taken with groups in the lunchroom.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.