

Horizon Elementary – School Community Organization (SCO) Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2021

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm

12 people in attendance

Approval of November Minutes

- Motion to approve minutes by Kathryn F, seconded by Michelle V, all in favor.

Financial Report: Kristen Bradley

- Kristen presented the financial report and said that the SCO is heading into some less active months so no major expenditures outside of what is budgeted are anticipated.
- Motion to approve the financial report by Kathryn F, seconded by Nada A, all in favor.

Principal Remarks: Michelle Kelly

- Michelle said that the recent Penny War raised \$2,000 and the school was able to briefly gather for the first time since COVID to see the Director of Miracle League accept the donation. Kathryn F, who organized the penny war, gave an overview of Miracle League's work and shared photos of students participating in Miracle League.
- Michelle said that the PBIS team is planning Winter Wonderland themed decorations throughout the school for December and that 12/23 is an all school pajamas or comfy clothes day.
- Michelle said that the fall semester will end 1/10/21 and that the new bell schedule for next year will have the school day begin at 7:40 am.

Old Business:

- Keri Jo played videos from 3 of the teachers who received classroom grants from the SCO and Sandy Pitelli spoke about her classroom grant to purchase masking tape for the library's makerspace. The other 3 classroom grants awarded were an all school visit from Hoo's Raptor Center from Katie Williams, magnetic letters and trays to develop reading and writing skills from Tara Compton and reusable phonics tools for the first graders from Britta Kula and the first grade team. Remaining funds from the fall semester classroom grant budget will roll over into the spring semester's available funds.
- The SCO elected to cancel the January meeting, the next meeting will be February 8, 2021.

Guest Speaker- Dr. Saron

- Dr. Saron introduced himself and gave an update on the Building for Our Future construction projects for the district, which can be found [here](#).
- Dr. Saron went over the district's equity strategy, which can be found [here](#); and the district's Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats analysis from 2013 and the policy responses to those issues, which can be found [here](#).
- Dr. Saron went over the effects of COVID isolation on students, such as loss of social skills, impulse control and emotional regulation, shortened attention spans, sensory overload as kids return to large group settings and increased stress and anxiety in the school setting as kids are not used to so much social interaction and crowded environments. Dr. Saron said that the district is working to meet kids where they are and that the increased fighting and violent behavior that we've seen this school year is seen in school districts across the state. Dr. Saron also noted that the poverty rate among the student population in Sun Prairie right now is 31%, the highest it's ever been, and that this follows a statewide trend of rising poverty rates as a result of the pandemic.
- Dr. Saron took the SCO's questions regarding the Early Reading Empowerment literacy intervention training, the school board's statement regarding standardized testing, (click [here](#) to visit the district's

student services page with links to free ACT prep resources) the Parent Leadership Council, (click [here](#) for PLC information) 4k in the district and multicultural and multilingual inclusion in the district. Dr. Saron encouraged parents to always reach out to him via phone or email with their questions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm– Motioned by Erica L and seconded by Nada A, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Morgan Aten, Horizon SCO Secretary

Please contact the SCO by emailing any of the following:

Heather Peschl	president@horizonsco.org
Kate Lennington	vicepresident@horizonsco.org
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