

Spirit Lake Elementary PIE
March 13, 2023
Spirit Lake Elementary School

Meeting called to order by PIE President Jamie Hunter at 12:00p

Board members present: Jamie Hunter, Rachel Fandel, Greta Gruys, Kelly Mueting, Kelli Kruger, Dave Matthews, Nicole Evans, Kate Mendenhall, Joy Pritchard

Guests present: Mr. Huebner, Amy Groen

Purpose Statement: PIE provides the students of the Spirit Lake Elementary School with activities and opportunities that support and extend their education above and beyond the classroom.

Principal Report

Mr. Huebner provided report.

Elementary Spring Conferences will be held this week- Tuesday, March 14 and Thursday, March 16. Preschool Open House will be held tonight, March 13, and as of today, 70 students are registered to start preschool for the 2023-24 year. The Kindergarten Open House will be held next Monday, March 20th. All elementary school hiring is complete! New elementary teacher hires updates: Mrs Coates – 1st grade (replacing Ms. Steiner who resigned); Ms. Fay- 1st grade (replacing Mrs. Zinnel who is transferring to special education); Mrs Peta – 3rd grade (replacing Mrs Mitchell who is retiring); TBA soon- 3rd grade (replacing Mrs Tepfer who is retiring); Ms Vierkant – special education (replacing Mrs Johnson who is transferring to guidance counselor); Mrs Johson- guidance counselor (replacing Mrs Thompson who is retiring). Last day of school still set for Friday, May 19th (approx. 13 hours/2 days remain of snow days available). First day of school for 2023-24 year is set for Wednesday, August 23.

Great feedback from teachers and staff about Absolute Science Shows and Stations!

“March Madness” Reading Challenge with all students’ birth months divided into teams in a bracket format with eliminations each week- students have been really excited about reading competition! School supply lists being put together by each grade in order to send to EP School Supply Company so that the bulk orders can be placed, and then students can place orders for the 2023-24 school year. Will do as a service to the students/families (not a fundraiser for PIE).

Playground Groundwork Estimates: \$36,00 From Boland Recreation (to remove blue chips, remove equipment, run a tile out form the playground to the marshy area by the tree line, and the placement of poured ground surfacing underneath). This does not include surfacing costs and playground equipment costs. Awaiting bid from AB Creative.

Elementary Spring concert is set for May 4th

Review/Approve February Meeting Minutes.

Sent via email and a copy was printed and distributed.

Motion made by Nicole to approve the Minutes; second Kelli. Ayes all, motion carried.

Review/Approve March Treasurer Report

Report printed and distributed. Kelly Mueting, Treasurer, provided updates.

Motion made by Rachel; second Joy. Ayes all, motion carried.

Absolute Science! Follow-up

- Great feedback from teachers and staff! The shows and hands-on stations went very well. Thank you to all who volunteered!
- Suggestion from teachers to purchase some of the items used during the discovery stations to have available for indoor recess activity options.
- Discussion about having Absolute Science! come to Spirit Lake Elementary every other year (?). Will discuss at PIE Summer Budget Meeting.

STEM Fair

- Greta Gruys provided update. STEM Fair set for Thursday, March 30. 88 students signed up!
- STEM Fair Presentations will be 2:30-3:00 Elementary students and staff invited to peruse; 5:30-6:30 Family and Friends invited. 3rd graders in the Elementary Gym and 4th graders in the cafeteria
- PIE purchased 80 tri-fold posterboards for students and Northwest Bank generously donated printing for STEM Fair packets and materials

CulturalAll

- Japanese Taiko drumming performance is set for Thursday, April 27 at 12:00p with the workshops to follow that afternoon for the 4th graders. The location will be the SAMI Center or the Gymnasium. The Okoboji presentation will be held the following morning on Friday, April 28. There is still ongoing discussion whether there will be a community presentation the evening of April 27 at the Pearson Lakes Art Center.
- Okoboji Elementary Pioneers and Spirit Lake Elementary PIE will split the transportation and possible lodging costs for CultureAll .
- Following the performance, the 4 Japanese ambassadors will work with 4th grade students in 4 different workshops on topics to include origami, swordsmanship, tea ceremony, Japanese festival dance with masks, children's games, calligraphy, and cultural differences. The workshops will be held in the 4th grade classrooms.
- Total Cost: \$1,900 (Okoboji will also pay \$1,900)
- Website: <https://www.cultureall.org/in-the-classroom>

Conference Meals

- Tuesday, March 14 and Thursday, March 16
- Rachel Fandel has arranged the meals through Yesterday's catering. Parents generously provide the meals during conferences with \$10 donations, bars/desserts, pre-made bagged salads, and beverages.

Teacher Appreciation

- Week of May 8-12
- Theme: Super Heroes
- Kelli Kruger- will order and deliver cake for Teacher's Lounge
- Ice Machine in Teacher's Lounge was presented in October as the Teacher Apprecation Gift

Electronic Action Items

- None

Miscellaneous

- Discussion regarding designated storage space in school for PIE items. Mr Huebner will look into this.

Motion made by Rachel to adjourn; second Joy. Ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:39p

Next monthly PIE meeting to be held Monday, April 17th (No school on Monday, April 10) at 12:00 at Spirit Lake Elementary.

Respectfully submitted,
Greta Gruys, PIE Secretary