PTA Meeting: Sept 12, 2016

6:30 p.m.

In Attendance: Erin Mauriello, Donal Hewitt, Kasar Maii, Deelan Hamdi, Ana Craig, Jill Swenson, Nicole Strafelda, Brandi Frisch, Scott Dronen, Dr. Johnson, Joan Houdek, Cassie Klein, Dawn Carr, Boampony Asare, Brandi Enger, Heather Konschak

Approval of August Minutes

Principal’s Report: Dr. Johnson presented, with Heather Konschak, information about the upcoming student ID cards. Students at Freedom will receive cards during the week of October 10. Two ID cards will be issued. The first is related to transportation services. Bus riders will be issued a passive RFID card that will document when a child gets on a bus, which bus they get on, and when/where they get off. The second card is for food services and the library program. Students will be issued a plastic card with a Code 39 barcode printed on it that they can use to pay for their meals and check out library books.

For both cards: student’s name and ID number will be printed on them. Photographs and specific school names will not be printed on the card. Back up procedures will be in place for all operations. If you would prefer your child not receive one or both of the ID cards, please communicate with the principal or dean of students about alternatives as your child would then need to memorize their ID number.

5th Grade Report: Student Deelan Hamdi presented.

Math: students currently working on volume/area and using Xtra Math (website) to practice math facts. ELA: beginning a unit on mysteries. Practicing visualizing, questioning and inferring. SeeSaw is an app student’s use on the ipad to connect with parents. Science/Social Studies: beginning a unit about the earth and sun. Will be studying Native Americans and Explorers. CNN Student News has worldwide news for students to watch. 10 minute daily videos.

The Self Manager program will begin this week. Self managers are students who take responsibility for themselves and complete work without having to be reminded. They will receive various privileges, like free seating in the cafeteria, wearing a badge around school, helping with Fill the Dome, frequent parties and, most importantly, having younger kids look up to them.

Report from Mrs. Houdek: Concordia has a used book drive for Ronald McDonald House. Is the PTA interested in taking up this cause? Self Managers are interested in more after school activities, but more adult supervision is required. Could PTA provide volunteers to help with this? Mrs. Houdek will provide us with the dates. Beginning soon Dezi, a nonverbal volunteer from Ann Carlson School, will be reading to students with the ipad. This will give students an opportunity to practice RICK with someone who is a bit different from them.

President’s Report: Skate night Tuesday September 13. Fit4life students may earn 20 extra points. Fundraiser beginning Sept 13. We had a round table discussion with parents and teachers on what PTA should do with funds raised. Ideas included walkie talkies for pick up procedure, flexible seating in more classrooms, soccer nets, zip line? And more outdoor activities for winter weather.

Treasurer’s Report: Financial Review results: Donal completed the audit. In order for PTA to reimburse funds and original receipt is needed. Copies and/or quotes cannot be accepted. A preliminary budget for the 2016-17 school year was presented and approved. Discussed corporate sponsorships for the budget. A volunteer is needed to sort box tops.

Wish List: Recess paras request 2 new megaphones. Current ones are not loud enough and often break. The cost is $45 per megaphone. Joan Houdek motioned, Jill Swenson seconded. Motion passes, no nays.

Upcoming Events:

September 13- Skate Night at Skate City
September 13- Fundraiser packets go home
September 25-Streets Alive Downtown Fargo
October 3- No School Professional Development Day

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for Monday, October 10, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.