Willow River Parent Group
Meeting Notes
February 16, 2015

17 people present

Call to Order 6:33

Board Reports
Volunteer Coordinator-Volunteer Opportunities coming up.  Link was sent to help with Talent Show, and next Culver’s night is April 6

Open Opportunities for 2015-2016 Board
Looking to fill positions of Treasurer and Volunteer Coordinator.  Additionally, there are numerous opportunities to volunteer that are not Board positions.

Read-A-Thon- Jodi Olson
Kids raise money for number of minutes read between May 2-15.  Each minute=one mile.  Kids can be sponsored for each minute read or given a flat donation. Packets containing letter to parents, sponsor sheet, passport for logging minutes read, will be distributed on May 1.  Money will be collected on May 18th. Goal is to get kids excited about reading.
The Read-a-Thon will be promoted on the Wolf Report.  Some fun incentives for the kids include surprise phone calls from Mrs. O to “catch” them reading (Students caught reading will be announced on the Wolf Report), rewards for being top readers in their class and a party of some sort for the class with the most minutes read.

Willow River Community Garden-Ramona Robinson-O’Brien
Ramona, a Willow parent, has just completed her Master Gardner training and is organizing a community garden for Willow River.  Care of the garden would be integrated with classroom work and would also work with foodservice to use the produce for the school. Plans to maintain the garden over the summer are still being discussed, though an idea of having families take a week to water and weed was suggested as a possibility.  The garden will be located on the corner of 5th and Oak in 2 4x8 raised beds, with the hopes of being planted on Young Author Day.  A grant proposal will be written and submitted this week for funding for the garden.  Seed and soil are anticipated to be donated, as well as some lumber.  Ramona and Mrs. Osterhues will be meeting with the District in the next few weeks to move forward with this fun project!

Teacher Buffet during Parent/Teacher Conferences
PG is looking for someone to fulfill the role of coordinating meals for the teachers during conferences next year.  An idea was suggested about possibly providing a meal for the teachers families as well the night of conferences.  Donations are still needed for conferences this Thursday and next. The teachers are so very appreciative of the time parents put into providing food for them!

Music and Art Show, April 17
The Music and Art Show is a free community event showcasing art from the students of the school, as well as a silent auction featuring local artists and individual classroom art. Many volunteers are needed to make this event possible.

Fundraising
Willow River is contracted with the Chip Shoppe fundraiser for one more year.  Chip Shoppe is a fast and efficient program; however PG is open to ideas of other possible fundraisers, and will be looking into doing something new the following year.

Survey
PG has designed a survey that will be attached to the weekly newsletter. The survey consists of 5 brief questions related to fundraising, participation, communication, ideas for future meetings, etc. PG is very interested in feedback from the parents.

Dining in the Dark, March 11
This awesome fundraising event gives us insight to what it is like to be visually impaired. There will be a taco dinner where you will eat blind-folded, fun family activities (such as suction cup archery, a cane maze and pinatas) and a silent auction. This event is open to the community so please spread the word! Tickets can be purchased online at [hudsondininginthedark2015.eventbrite.com](http://hudsondininginthedark2015.eventbrite.com/). If you are unable to attend but would like to make a donation, you can do so through this link.

Looking for Yearbook Coordinator for the 2015-2016 school year

\*\*Primary Election for School Board is on February 17.  Please Vote!\*\*

Upcoming Events:
-Talent Show, February 20, 6:30 pm(note time change)
-Parent/Teacher Conferences, February 19 and 26
-Book Fair, February 19/26 3:15-8pm
-Yearbook Orders due by February 27th.  Order at
            ybpay.lifetouch.com, School Code: 3136815
-Family Bootcamp, March 11

Next Meeting, March 16

Adjourn 7:12