

FOESL meeting minutes
December 17, 2014

Attendees: Chris Myers, Patrick Fuller, Lara Ingham, Heidi Hackenjus, Gisela Walitzki, Jana Reddoch, Julie Solomon, Hilary O'Hollaren, Frances Phillips

Julie Solomon- Financial report of book fair

Julie presented the financial report as of 12/10/2014. It appears that the book fair has net \$5,818, with pending expenses such as the bus, posters, bookmarks, etc. It has been much easier to consolidate the numbers with Annie Bloom's as we do not have the discrepancies that we had with Powell's at the end of the fair.

The upcoming April 14 to 17 Literary Festival at OES, which includes the Lou Fernandez donations, has an anticipated budget of about \$5,000. This should be a line item in the development budget, but we have not tracked this separately. FOESL is allowed to carry over our money across the school year because we may need expenses for author visits at the beginning of the school year.

The committee asked Julie Solomon to create a budget based on historical data.

Patrick- The MS Summer read will be 6 to 8 graphic novels instead of one single book. These selections will help guide who may be brought in as a visiting author next year.

Lara and Heidi- There is still some discomfort with the teacher wish-list, as some teachers ask for many books and some ask for none. Some perceive it as a popularity contest, while others strongly desire to show appreciation toward their student's teacher with a gift book. The visibility of the discrepancies in requests may need to be changed. The philosophical questions are "Is there enough money in the school budget for these books anyway? and Isn't this an opportunity for parents to appreciate a teacher with guidance and specific requests?"

The mechanical problems of getting the wish-list books and the ECHOES book drive paid for were addressed. We have been trying to get away from charging the student accounts through the OES business accounts, but this could be readdressed. This year the business office seemed to have no complaints about charging student's accounts for the last few book drive books, so maybe we can figure out a way to charge the wish-list and pre-order books for next year.

Julie stated that the Google forms do not allow a total of the monetary amount at the end of the order form. It is probably not worth purchasing a software program that could do this.

Unfortunately, there seemed to be little participation from upper and middle school students. Patrick advised that if we include a Thursday next year, we may be able to have a "Flexivity" bus take MS students to Annie Bloom's during the school day.

Upcoming author visits-

Katherine Applegate, Newbery Medal winner, author of “The One and Only Ivan” will be coming Jan. 22nd for 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders.

Jennifer Holland, author of the “Unlikely Friendships” books, has been rescheduled to Feb. 5th (due to snow day). This will be for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders. She will be bringing a llama (\$100 cost).

The Literary Festival, held during National Library Week, is a joint venture of FOESL and ECHOES and will include literary awards, author visits, and a gala reception to honor Lou Fernandez. The author visit will also tie in with the US and MS humanities courses.