

Neil Cummins PTA

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Minutes from "PTA General Meeting" on 01/16/2008 - 7:00pm

Thu, 02/14/2008 - 1:48pm — Webmaster

Minutes for: PTA General Meeting *from* 01/16/2008 - 7:00pm *to* 01/16/2008 - 7:30pm

Attendees:

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Laura Anderson, President; Catherine Guthrie, Executive Vice-President; Julia Ritter, Vice President; Andrea Pierpont, Vice President; Linda Henn, Vice President; Carolyn Caindec, Vice President; Sheri Mowbray, Secretary; Ann Trunko, Treasurer; Susan Christman, Parliamentarian; Marilyn Clark, Principal; Michelle Walker, Vice Principal; Lynn Werner; Margot Segal; Allison Ross; Lisa Poole; Sarah Notter; Doug Mowbray; Suzanne Joyal; Emily Janowsky; Paula Strand; Heddy Chapman; Cookie Morin; Wendy Hitchcock; Janeen Smith; Stephanie Bennett; Ursula Cingolani; Hiram Ono; Cindy Traverso; David Mungenast; Glenda Swanson; Kathy O'Connell.

Meeting Notes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Laura Anderson.

Treasurer's Report

Ann Trunko presented a snapshot of the PTA's current financial position. She reported that we currently have \$5,505 in our checking account and \$43,191 in our money market account. We have \$86,674 in receivables which is the amount for the second session of lunch which has been billed to the district and on which we are awaiting payment. This amount is way up from the \$73,000+ from the first session. We anticipate having a net profit of \$14,000 from the first session. Hot lunch is the PTA's largest fundraiser followed by the spellathon which last year raised \$21,000. Ann then reminded members that all funds raised by the PTA go directly to the kids and classrooms. She cited the many examples of programs the PTA runs and added that the PTA has also recently funded requests for such things as: 1) \$2,000 for supplies for the art portable; 2) \$1,500 for new color coded playground balls; 3) \$1,000 for books for each classroom to assist with teaching kids about learning diversity; 4) \$500 to the reading specialists for additional readers for families to check out.

Ann asked for a motion to release funds for February-June events including:

Classroom Libraries on Learning Diversity \$1,000

Reading Support Materials \$ 500

Add'l funding for Visual Arts Instruction \$5,300

HRP/Committee Head Lunch \$ 300

Kindergarten Registration \$ 75

TV Turn-off week (funding only) \$ 150

Musical Theater \$10,000

Variety Show \$ 500

Art Portable Supplies \$1,000

PTA Convention \$ 500

Honorary Awards \$ 300

Program Stipends \$2,500

Staff Appreciation \$1,250
Volunteer Appreciation \$ 400

Susan Christman moved that we release the above mentioned funds. Carolyn Caindec seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ann then asked that we ratify the checks written 11/15/07-1/16/08. Andrea Pierpont moved that we ratify the checks written 11/15/07-1/16/08. Linda Henn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Paula Strand, chair for Boxtops for Education, suggested that all PTA members clip boxtops because we get free money. The PTA recently received a check for \$335. She asked that members clip them well so that she doesn't have to do so.

Principal's Report

Marilyn Clark reported that she had just come from the Parent School Partnership meeting. She mentioned that they are the ones responsible for the learning diversity book request that the PTA recently funded. She said the books are wonderful. She then spoke about the current state budget crisis and the fact that the picture does not look pretty. She said that the district has frozen spending. She explained the problem with categorical spending which is very limiting to districts. She gave the example that if things are as grim as they currently appear they might be next year that families may be asked to pay for school supplies that the school has previously covered. The PTA funds do support things like instructional supplies and she noted that the PTA and Foundation will be more important than ever. She also explained that our district is currently revenue limit but may tip to basic aid if the cuts are a certain level. She thanked everyone for their volunteer hours, energy and fundraising and noted that these are the things that really make a huge difference in our school.

Laura Anderson told everyone that to have their voice heard; they should check various websites and that they should expect to receive a letter from the PTA telling everyone how they can help.

Approval Items

Minutes from 11/15/07 General Membership meeting

Marilyn Clark moved that we approve the minutes from the 11/15 meeting; Julia Ritter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

\$5,300 for Visual Arts Instruction

Laura Anderson explained that Colleen Beery and her committee requested funding for an Art Cart and additional supplies needed for the art room, as well as teacher training materials. She announced that Suzanne Joyal will become the liaison between the PTA, Youth in Arts and the Foundation in order to keep communication lines wide open. She also noted that Youth in Arts will be very involved in the purchase to make sure that all materials purchased are appropriate for the program.

Susan Christman moved that we approve \$5,300 for the Visual Arts Instructions materials and training supplies. Andrea Pierpont seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

Nominating Committee

Susan Christman announced that work is beginning on forming next year's PTA board. The openings we know will be available as of yet are VP Enrichment, Parliamentarian, and co-president. Ann Trunko, Kris Wade and Carolyn Caindec are the nominating committee members. She said that if anyone would like to serve on the committee or serve on the board to let her know.

Spellathon

Everyone received envelopes on Monday. Over \$22k was raised last year. Everyone was encouraged to have their kids participate in order to make a difference!

Fundraising Alternatives

Laura told the membership that we have been doing the wrapping paper sale every year in order to raise money for the 5th grade outdoor education program. However, in an effort to be more eco-friendly, we are looking for alternatives since the wrapping paper is not

recyclable and proceeds are being use to cover an environmental program so it doesn't make sense. Please let the PTA know of any ideas. Currently, a walkathon and sale of recyclable wrapping paper are the two suggestions. We need to raise \$12,000. Ideas are due by 1/31/08.

Science Night

Janeen Smith announced that Science Night is coming up on 1/30/08. She said that there will be an astronomy show, many stations, Wildcare, and dinner provided by the D+ Dads and Michelle Walker. Middle school kids will be coming to help. She does need some additional adult volunteers to man a couple of stations. She will also need donations of baked goods to be sold to benefit the science program.

Variety Show

The Variety Show is being chaired by Jackie Grandy and will be held on February 8th. There are 4 mandatory rehearsals for participants. The show is intended to showcase talent, not lip-synching. The rehearsals do not conflict with school play rehearsals.

Additional Business

Laura announced that Friday Fun Night is this Friday for the first and second graders from 5p-7:30pm. She also announced that there will be a school-wide lice check this Friday. Kindergarten Registration is February 13th. The next general meeting will be on February 13th.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Mowbray

Upon adjournment, Dr. Joshua Coleman spoke on the topic, "Married with Children, Keeping the Marriage Strong".

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