

GRAND PRAIRIE PTO MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 11, 2008

In attendance: Lisa Burrows, Jen Donnell, Lisa Lydon, Michelle White, Natalie Zographos, Donna Young, Pam Sinram, Kim Radaker, Cassie Kohrt, Jennifer Lotarski, Janan Szurek, Anna Fagan, Vicky Durovec, Jana Hlade, Matt Becker, Chris Ulreich, Dena Berry, Candace O'Brien, Jen Babec, Carrie Dolbee, Shannon Capps, Monique Doolittle, Kelly Carl, Eva Garcia, Mary Ellen Miller, Sheila Taylor

Meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Co-President Lisa Burrows.

Minutes from the October meeting were presented and were approved with a motion by Kim Radaker, seconded by Pam Sinram.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Was presented and was approved with a motion by Jen Lotarski, seconded by Shannon Capps.

MR. TOM HERNANDEZ

Tom Hernandez, the Community Relations director of the district, welcomed all parents/staff members to call or email his department with any unique goings-on in classrooms. This is part of a progressive outreach approach to notifying all families about things being done in school. Every Friday, an Education Partners email is sent out with that week's publicity, photos, and stories, along with question/answers and rumor clarification. To sign up, visit the district website.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- PTO received approval to raffle a Wii as a fundraiser, with proceeds going to the general fund. An executive vote was taken earlier in the day to purchase the system, as a limited number of them were available and none could be held. A majority approved, with a motion by Cassie Kohrt, seconded by Carrie Dolbee.

-Other new/ongoing fundraisers- Meijer offers up to 2% back, including gas/pharmacy purchases, but customer must pay with cash/debit/Meijer card; Foot Locker reward cards; Subway gift cards- are unloaded, but designated to Grand Prairie- every time they are loaded a percentage goes back to GP- see Jen Donnell if you'd like some. If you have an existing Subway card, be sure to go online and designate GP to receive the % back.

-Thank you cards were received from Heartland blood centers (blood drive) and the Speech/Language pathology department for the money received to fund additional materials for students with autism.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

-Reminder to dress warmly- recess and evacuation drills are still held in the cold!

-No invitations of any kind are to be distributed (per district policy) through school. Janan will speak to teachers about compiling a voluntary classroom directory, perhaps coordinated through room reps.

-Flu shots are NOT mandated by the district

-State of the District address was given by Dr. Harper- addresses growth, finances, curriculum, trends, etc. This will be available for online viewing shortly.

-Building schedule for the district is being scaled back due to slowed growth. There was a question raised as to the construction of a proposed new middle school nearby. Janan mentioned a lot of factors

influence building, and although the building referendum passed, there has not been a staffing referendum as of yet.

-A question was raised as to whether or not children who buy hot lunch may bring additional food from home to eat with it- Janan will look into this, as this should be allowed without issue.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SPIRITWEAR- Jen Babec and Donna Young brought several items for purchase after the meeting, including the limited edition "bling" shirt for \$20.

HOLIDAY GIFT SHOP- Volunteers needed; sign up forms passed.

FAMILY NIGHT OUT- Jen Lotarski reported that \$75 was received from Jimmy John's, and Mrs. Toohy's class had the largest turnout, followed by Mrs. Soliman's class. Babe's will be Friday 11/14, Michael's Pizza 11/17-19, and 11/25 Chuck E. Cheese's. Culver's, Barraco's, McDonald's to come in January.

MARKET DAY- Cookie Dough bonus days December- due Dec 5/ pick-up Dec 11. Drive-up Market Day service will be offered for the winter months, Nov, Dec, Jan, possibly Feb.)

BOOK FAIR- Eva reported total sales of \$9357.39, including the 1 for books. Profit of \$1801.24 was already spent by Mrs. Starkman, and she still has an additional \$2475.48 in vouchers.

BOX TOPS- Pam reported that approximately \$1200 was raised.

FALL FUNDRAISER- Pick-up is 11/13 from 4:30-6 in the gym. Approx. \$7400 profit.

SCHOOL MALL- This year, approximately \$1900 was raised, up from last year's \$1600.

BINGO NIGHT- Friday, Feb. 3rd. Majority voted to approve Cub Scouts handling drinks, and Student Council handling food for this event. Motioned by Vicky Durovec, seconded by Shannon Capps.

DIABETES WALK- Approximately \$5,500 was raised. A suggestion was made to make possible online donations- this was not done, as it cannot be determined which child a donation came in the name of.

-December meeting is Tuesday, December 2- Please bring a dish to pass.

Motion to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. by Jana Hlade, seconded by Eva Garcia.

Respectfully submitted by Natalie Zographos, PTO Secretary.