

## Grand Prairie PTO Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2009

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Michelle White, Jen Donnell, Lisa Burrows, Lisa Lydon, Chrissy Feil, Jennifer Lotarski, Cassie Kohrt, Mary Scholp, Jennifer Leone, Holly Toohey, Dawn Kasper, Kimberly Radaker, Carol Luthanen, Carrie Dolbee, Mark Dolbee, Nadine Parmenter, Tim Parmenter, Penny Golub, Pam Sinram, Sue Connolly, Dena Berry, Lynn Cihlar, Sara Kandl, Dena Harris, Don Taylor, Kelly Carl, Chris Witkowski, Natalie Zographos, Liz Plewa, Jana Hlade, Chris Ulreich, Janan Szurek, Juliann Palmer, J. Yrmet Troop 833, Nikki Skedel, Tina Gieseke, Vicky Durovec, Monique Doolittle, Tracy Lambert, Jennifer Babec, Sheila Taylor, Jennifer DiGuolamo, Sophie Micetich, Dawn Ufein, S. Middleton. Ruth Sola, Cathy Mogorovic

Meeting called to order by Co-President, Jen Donnell @ 6:04 p.m.

-A request was made to add the names of the members of the Nominating Committee to the March minutes and that was done by the Secretary.

Minutes from the March meeting were presented and approved with a motion by Sara Kandl and a second motion by Mary Scholp.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was presented and was approved with a motion by Dena Berry and a second motion by Carol Luthanen.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

-Jen Starkman was able to purchase several books for the Media Center with the profits from Bingo Night, many of which are already in the hands of our children!

-Janan requested that the Fall Fundraiser moneys be re-designated to the cost of a new sound system due to the discovery of a text book fund that is available to go towards the previously designated maps & globes. The decision was put to a vote and it was decided that the \$3000 would go towards the new sound system with a motion by Vicky Durovec and a second motion by Lynn Cihlar.

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

-Janan discussed recent budget cut news for our district noting that there will not be a need to eliminate any teaching positions due to recent retirements at Grand Prairie. There will be some grade level restructuring, GP will increase 4<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms from 3 to 4 next year

and decrease 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms from 4 to 3. Administrator positions were cut by 1/3 across the district which means our Special Education Administrator will go from covering 3 schools to covering 4 schools.

Janan was very excited to announce the addition of a Kindergarten open house to be held May 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6pm. Kids Care and Student Council will participate by giving tours. Dena Berry is one of our GP bus drivers and has graciously agreed to have her school bus here that night to help our incoming Kindergarteners become more comfortable and familiar with bus procedures. In addition, we will also have Kindergarten Round-Up in August.

-Registration packets are in the process of being sent out and it would be most helpful for class assignments if they could be sent back ASAP. Deferred payment plans are available; forms are available in the office.

### TEACHER REPS

-Lynn Cihlar thanked Denise Worland for the banners and Mr. Hug for all of his help with the new sound system. Lynn also thanked Vicky Durovec and Liz Plewa for their help preparing for Fine Arts Night...

- Fine Arts Night will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm for our K thru 2nd grade families and on April 30<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm for our 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade families.

- Our D.A.R.E. program graduation will be held on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

-Book Fair

The Spring Book Fair will be held April 27<sup>th</sup> thru April 30<sup>th</sup>. Eva announced that Grand Prairie will be participating in One For Books as we did in the fall. It was also announced that after much dedicated time and commitment, this would be Kelly Carl's last year serving as Book Fair Committee Co-Chair.

-Spirit Wear

There will be a spring sale and flyers will be sent home.

-Family Night Out

Jen Lotarski has secured dates with Pioneer Lanes, Panera Bread, and Steak & Shake.

Jackhammers FNO will be on May 29<sup>th</sup> and tickets are still available for \$10.

-Fun Fair Committee

This year's Fun Fair was very successful and brought in more than \$2400.

-Market Day

Carol Luthanen suggested raffling off the Market Day profit to teachers for their classrooms as an incentive to volunteer during the summer months. The teachers volunteering during June will be put into a raffle and 1 name will be drawn, that teacher will then receive June's profits to be used for their classroom, same for July and for August. It was put to a vote and passed with the majority in favor with a first motion by Dawn Kasper and a second by Ruth Sola.

### OLD BUSINESS

-Spring Fundraiser brought in a profit of \$4,902.80

-School Supplies

School supply lists are available on the district website.

<http://www.learningcommunity202.org>

Nominating Committee

-Nominating Committee Chairperson, Michelle White spoke on behalf of the Nominating Committee being the committee's non-voting member. Michelle explained the Bylaws and read Article 9 aloud. Michelle announced the nominations that the committee received for the 2009-10 Executive Board and then asked for nominations from the floor, at this time there are none.

-All of Grand Prairie's current Teacher Reps have agreed to stay on for the 2009-10 school year along with one new addition. Next year's Teacher Reps are: Matt Becker, Lynn Cihlar, Mary Ellen Miller, Peggy Staszak, and Holly Toohey.

-Jen Donnell and Dawn Kasper were nominated for President running together and Penny Golub was nominated for President. It was announced that each party would be given 3 minutes to explain what qualifies them for the position and then it would go to a silent vote. Chris Witkowski nominated Penny Golub for Vice President from the floor. Penny Golub withdrew from the running for President. Nominations were announced and put to the room for the vote.

President...Dawn Kasper

Approved with a first motion by Cassie Kohrt and a second by Sue Connelly.

President...Jen Donnell

Approved with a first motion by Kim Radaker and a second by Mary Scholp.

Vice President...Pam Sinram

Approved with a first motion by Monique Doolittle and a second by Jen Lotarski.

Vice President...Penny Golub

Approved with a first motion by Dena Berry and a second by Tina Gieske.

Treasurer...Lisa Lydon

Approved with a first motion by Sara Kandl and a second by Pam Sinram.

Secretary...Chrissy Feil

Approved with a first motion by Dawn Kasper and a second by Jennifer Babec.

### NEW BUSINESS

-Reps from Girl Scout Troop 833 spoke on behalf of a drive they are organizing to help save pets at an animal shelter. They are requesting food, towels, blankets, leashes, collars, and like items. Donations will be collected at Grand Prairie starting April 15<sup>th</sup> and lasting for two weeks.

-Yearbook Committee

Yearbooks are in and will be distributed near the end of the school year. After much dedication and an enormous commitment of time, this will be Vicky Durovec's last year as the Yearbook Committee's Chairperson.

-Family Literacy Committee

The Family Literacy Committee will host its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Children & Family Poetry Reading Night on April 16<sup>th</sup> from 4-7:30 pm at the Barnes & Noble on Plainfield Rd.

-Nadine Parmenter

There will a parenting seminar at Plainfield East High School on April 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 7 pm

-School Gifts

-There was a vote to approve the cost of having our current riser backs retro-fitted to provide safer equipment which would cost \$2300 as opposed to the cost of new risers which is \$9000. The vote to spend \$2300 to retro-fit the risers was in favor and approved by the majority with a motion by Chris Ulreich and a second by Jana Hlade.

-There was a vote to approve \$1300 for 84 new folding chairs and a rolling cart to store them on. The vote was in favor and approved by the majority with a motion by Jenn Leone and a second by Penny Golub.

-There was a vote to approve \$450 for Nurse Jenny to be spent on a reserve of new underpants and a new thermometer. The vote was in favor and approved by the majority with a motion by Carol Luthanen and a second by Sue Connelly.

-Chris Ulreich suggested starting a program that would provide PTO grants to our teachers to help soften some of the costs of the classroom they incur themselves. The Executive Board agreed to consider the idea for the 2009-10 school year.

-Sheila Taylor requested changing the time of the PTO meetings from 6pm to 6:30pm for the 2009-10 school year. The request was put to the room for a vote and was approved.

-The last PTO meeting for this school year will be held at Giordanos out of gratitude for the generosity they showed Grand Prairie during our fundraising efforts. The meeting will be held May 5<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm.

Meeting was adjourned by Co-President Lisa Burrows @ 7:26pm with a motion by Cassie Kohrt and a second by Sophie Micetich.

Respectfully submitted by Chrissy Feil, PTO Secretary.