

August 4, 2009

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jen Donnell, Dawn Kasper, Pam Sinram, Lisa Lydon, Chrissy Feil, Penny Golub, Jennifer Lotarski, Kimberly Radaker, Carrie Dolbee, Sue Connolly, Lynn Cihlar, Jana Hlade, Chris Ulreich, Janan Szurek, Juliann Palmer, Tracy Lambert, Sheila Taylor, Peggy Staszak, Theresa Saavedra, Krista Rowzee, Kelly Ryan, Lisa Burrows, Dena Berry, Nikki Skedel, D. Colantone, Laura Klíma, Cassie Kohrt, Raquel Nunez, Eva Garcia, Tina Gieseke

Meeting called to order by President, Jen Donnell @ 6:35 p.m.

Jen Donnell announced that all meetings will be tape recorded for better reference.

Minutes from the May meeting were presented and approved with a motion by Tracy Lambert and a second motion by Lynn Cihlar.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was presented and was approved with a motion by Sue Connelly and a second motion by Lisa Burrows.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- "Bingo Night" will no longer take place due to gaming laws and restrictions.

- Committee chairpersons or anyone else wishing to send out any notifications through school will need to have them to Janan at least one week in advance to allow for them to be translated into Spanish for our bi-lingual families. Committee Chairpersons should also send these notifications to the PTO Board to better prepare the Board to field questions that come in regarding the notifications.

- In September there will be changes introduced to the by-laws to be voted on at the October meeting.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- If you have not registered your Kindergarten students, please do so immediately.

- Class assignment postcards are being mailed out on August 14<sup>th</sup>.

- "Meet & Greet" is scheduled for August 24<sup>th</sup>... Grades 1 thru 5 will attend from 11am-12pm. AM Kindergarten will attend @ 6pm and PM Kindergarten will attend @ 6:45pm.

- If you do not receive your classroom assignment before August 24<sup>th</sup>, there will be class lists posted at school.

- The "Curriculum Night" schedule is as follows:

September 1<sup>st</sup>...Kindergarten @ 6pm., 1<sup>st</sup> Grade @ 6:30pm., and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade @ 7PM

September 3<sup>rd</sup>...3<sup>rd</sup> Grade @ 6pm., 4<sup>th</sup> Grade @ 6:30pm., 5<sup>th</sup> Grade @ 7pm.

All groups will meet in the gym @ their assigned times.

Please attend w/o children if at all possible.

-Janan informally announced the addition of new staff.

- The theme for the 2009-10 school year is "Individually Unique...Together Complete".

- There was a volunteer sign-up for the first day of school...Kindergarteners will meet in the gym that morning.

- The District Outreach Program has chosen a new officer from The National Honor Society to help assist Grand Prairie on a volunteer basis and her name is Chloe Mattia.

- The sound system has been delivered but was unable to be installed due to location restrictions but will hopefully be installed very soon.

-Janan announced that the Grand Prairie Gazette will be delivered electronically this year in an attempt to reduce paper consumption...Paper copies will be available to those that do not have access to a computer.

- "Family Reading Night" is scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup> with more information to follow soon.

- The digital display system discussed last school year is in the process of being researched.

### TEACHER REPS

- Lynn Cihlar would like to continue the volunteer program for Band & Choir. Volunteers are needed for B days during lunch hours for Band and volunteers are needed to help with Choir in the morning from 8-9am.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Market Day

August profits will be going to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

- Room Parties

Room Reps. have been eliminated and there will now be a Room Party Committee Chairperson to represent each grade level. The "Room Party Tea" has also been eliminated and "Lead Parent" folders for the fall party will be given out after the October PTO Meeting. Receipts will be given out for room party donations. "Lead Parents" for the room parties must be paid PTO members.

- Homecoming

Fran Korous & Chrissy Feil will be heading up the Homecoming Committee this year. The theme for this year's Homecoming parade is "Plainfield Is Going Green!" The GP float will revolve around the devastating issues facing Polar Bears. Information on volunteering will be available after the start of school.

- Spirit Wear

There will soon be a link on the GP website to view and order GP spirit wear in an effort to help reduce paper usage. All spirit wear items now have an item number to better help assist our bi-lingual families with ordering.

- This sparked an extensive discussion about Grand Prairie's new bi-lingual program. Janan explained that the program was state-mandated after an audit and that Grand Prairie's ultimate goal is to have a dual language program available to all students with this being the first step towards that goal.

Vice President Penny Golub excused herself @ 7:25pm.

### OLD BUSINESS

- All purchases over \$100 made by the PTO will be brought to a vote at a PTO Meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS

- The "Ice Cream Social" will be held on September 18<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm.

Topping donations excluding peanut items will be accepted.

- Escríp will be offering 10% back to GP August 12<sup>th</sup>- September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Open committees...The Fun Fair Committee is in need of 1 person for set-up and take-down and 1 person to take care of the scheduling of volunteers.
- Book Fair will be held the week of September 28<sup>th</sup> and papers will be coming home early in the school year.
- Grand Prairie has a new committee...Janan is heading up "The Green Committee" in an effort to minimize Grand Prairie's carbon footprint. The efforts of the Green Committee will start in the lunchroom with parent volunteers to help police the trash. If you are interested, please contact Chrissy Feil ([chrissy8777@gmail.com](mailto:chrissy8777@gmail.com)). The goal is to educate & excite the students to the point that they are able to confidently recycle & reuse on their own. There will be a blog in the GP Gazette featuring tips and suggestions to help "green" Grand Prairie. The Green Committee will hold meetings the last Tuesday of the month @ 3:45pm beginning September 29<sup>th</sup> in the Media Center.

Meeting was adjourned by President Jen Donnell @ 8:05pm with a motion by Cassie Kohrt and a second by Jen Lotarski.

Respectfully submitted by Chrissy Feil, PTO Secretary.