

## Grand Prairie PTO Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2009

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Jen Donnell, Dawn Kasper, Pam Sinram, Lisa Lydon, Chrissy Feil, Penny Golub, Jennifer Lotarski, Kimberly Radaker, Carrie Dolbee, Sue Connolly, Jana Hlade, Chris Ulreich, Janan Szurek, Juli Palmer, Tracy Lambert, Sheila Taylor, Theresa Saavedra, Lisa Burrows, Cassie Kohrt, Eva Garcia, Tina Gieseke, Jen Babec, Lisa Seeman, Jeanne Michand, Matt Becker, Tina Dobslaw, Talia Jones, Dayan Aancock, Lori Gieseler, Shawna Gockman, Carmen Avellano, Holly Toohey, Monique Doolittle, Chris Witkowski, Sara Kandl, Vicky Durovec, Peggy Staszak

### **Meeting called to order by President, Jen Donnell @ 6:37 p.m.**

Minutes from the August meeting were presented and approved with a motion by Vicky Durovec and a second motion by Jen Lotarski.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's report was presented and was approved with a motion by Theresa Saavedra and a second motion by Carrie Dolbee.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- Nancy Hund was seriously injured in an accident and there is currently not a set guideline for PTO donations for a staff member's hospitalization. There are currently guidelines for a student's hospitalization and it was suggested that we change that to student/staff. Lisa Burrows made a motion to designate \$250 to the Hund family. A vote was taken and approved with a motion by Chris Witkowski and a second motion by Cassie Kohrt.

- GP PTO is no longer able to sell raffle tickets due to laws set in place but we are able to give tickets away for a raffle.

- Mary Ellen Miller will no longer be able to serve as a faculty representative for the PTO due to a conflicting schedule.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

- GP will be participating in Discovery Testing 3 times per year and this will replace the Terra Nova testing done in years past.

- Flyers for extra-curricular activities can now be found in the Virtual Backpack on the district website in an effort to reduce paper consumption.

- Students in grades 3-5 will have the opportunity to watch a pre-recorded speech given by President Obama on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Parents that do not want their children to view the speech may sign and return the opt-out letter sent home.

- GP received a check from Target for \$292.07. This money came from a program that allows parents to register their Target credit cards and designate GP as the school of their choice allowing GP to earn a percentage of those sales.

## **TEACHER REPS**

- Family Literacy Night will be held on October 1<sup>st</sup> from 6:30-8pm at Grand Prairie. This year's theme is "Don't Be Puzzled!"

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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The Fall Fundraiser begins Thursday Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. A vote was taken to designate \$1,000.00 of the Fall Fundraiser's profits to go to the media center to supplement the loss of Bingo Night and was approved with a motion by Sara Kandl and a second motion by Chris Ulreich. It was agreed that this issue may be re-visited towards the end of the school year to possibly raise the dollar amount.

- The Holiday Gift Shop Committee requested moneys from the PTO in the amount of \$2,000.00 to begin stocking the "gift shop". A vote was taken and \$2,000.00 was approved to the Holiday Gift shop Committee with a motion by Tracy Lambert and a second motion by Carrie Dolbee.

- Fall Book Fair will be held Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>-Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> and will be combined with Family Literacy Night.

- Fun Fair will be held Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. We are still in need of 2 people to be responsible for set-up and take-down along with someone to organize the volunteers for that day.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- School Mall booklets need to be turned in by Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>. There was a vote to designate funds generated by School Mall booklets to purchase Weekly Readers and Time for Kids magazines. This vote was approved with a motion by Tina Gieseke and a second motion by Monique Doolittle.

- Family Night Out...

Thursday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> from 5-8pm @ Arbys on Rte. 59

Monday, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> thru Wednesday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> @ Michaels Pizza

Thursday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> from 3-9pm @ Chuck E. Cheese

- Girl Scouts will be collecting pop tabs and the money earned will be turned over to Mary Ellen Miller to be used by the Needy Family Fund.

Girl Scouts are in need of troop leaders otherwise some girls may need to be placed with troops at other schools. If you are interested please contact Lisa Burrows at

[lisaanneburrows@aol.com](mailto:lisaanneburrows@aol.com).

-Volunteers are needed for band help. Please contact Lynn Cihlar if you are able to help.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Room Parties

Traditionally \$30 is designated to each class for each room party. The Room Party Committee has requested that the dollar amount be changed to \$1 per student in each class to ensure equality given the addition of smaller classrooms. This request was put to vote and approved with a motion by Eva Garcia and a second motion by Sue Connolly.

- Homecoming

The Homecoming parade is scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9am and all are welcome to come out and walk with our Polar Bear.

- By Laws

The addition of a whistleblower policy, conflict of interest policy, and document retention and destruction policy were discussed and explained extensively. The addition of these policies will be voted on at the October meeting. The By Laws are open to discussion and open to change. The possibility of adding a code of conduct policy was also discussed. Request was made to hold the vote until November so that a code of conduct policy can be researched and added without time constraints. It was also suggested that the By Laws protect the entire PTO with the whistleblower policy by adding to the code of conduct at a later date under a "general umbrella". There was a vote to proceed with voting on the whistleblower policy, the conflict of interest policy, and the document retention and destruction policy at the October meeting at which time any additional changes to the By Laws may be introduced and voted on in November. The vote was approved with a motion by Holly Toohey and a second motion by Lisa Seeman.

- A Staples gift card was given away in a drawing to Suzie Badertscher.

**Meeting was adjourned by President Jen Donnell @ 8:11pm with a motion by Peggy Staszak and a second by Sheila Taylor.**

Respectfully submitted by Chrissy Feil, PTO Secretary.