

JAMES W. ALEXANDER PTA, INC.
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
December 2, 2008

CALL TO ORDER:

President Tori McMahon called the meeting to order at 7:10pm and led the flag salute. She welcomed teacher representative Mrs. Katz.

ESTABLISHING QUORUM: (Executive Committee)

Excused from tonight's meeting and those present; see attached list.

OFFICER'S REPORT:

Secretary's Report: The minutes from November will be distributed at a later date.

Treasurer's Report: Julie reported from the Statement of Account for November 12, 2008 through December 2, 2008. A beginning balance of \$8002.07, receipts of \$15,305.94, disbursements of \$14,946.83, and an ending balance of \$8361.18. The report was filed for audit. (See attached copy.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Arts in Education- Rachel reported that the following were winners of this year's Reflections program.

Dance/Choreography: Natasha Tatrai

Music: David Kraus

Photography: Ethan Kraus, Lauren Miller, Zachary Dudeck, Vanessa Ficarro, Dean Powers, Chris Cote, Louis Lombardo

Literature: Slava Aleksandrovyeh, Robert Foy, Emily Szuter

Visual Arts: Daniel Maida, Alex Rubio, Julia Parungao, Caroline Sagan, Arianna Ricci, Katherine Miller, Marissa Guadagno

Honorable Mention: Sammy Abraham, Christine Czuczuk, Zachary Chin, Christopher Helmlinger, Jessica Huth, Dushelmir Jeremie, Spencer Oliver, Brielle Rodriguez, Tess Sleem, Kuft Tobic, and Albina Tatrai

Kindergarten Registration- Jamie reported that kindergarten registration will be held on Tuesday, January 6th and Wednesday January 7th. This is a change from the normal Monday and Tuesday from the past.

She stated that the folders will contain a welcome letter from the PTA describing the difference between the E board and general PTA. We're also including the helpful hints letter from last year. This is a list of hints compiled by former K parents of things we wished we knew when our kids started. An Alexander Pennant will also be in each folder.

Communications- Jen reported that the newsletter was copied today and will be distributed Thursday.

Family Activities- Cindy reported that December 5, 2008 is the deadline to order poinsettias. The plants will be delivered Monday morning and can be picked up between 3:30-5:30 that day.

Founders Day- Jodi reported that they had a meeting in November and that things are coming along nicely. They are planning another meeting in early January.

Budget and Finance- Deb Hamm thanked everyone who helped at the Fall Fundraiser pick-up. She went on to say that the Gift Card fundraiser went very well. We had over \$14,000 in sales which meant almost a \$1,000 profit for the PTA. She thanked Sue Bishop for organizing it.

She stated that we received a check from Goodsearch.com for \$64. She encouraged everyone to keep using Goodsearch as their search engine as every bit helps.

Debbie said the clothing drive was a huge success. There were over 450 bags of donated items. The bags weighed over 5,840 pounds which meant a profit of \$859.46; this was especially nice because it is a no-cost fundraiser. She thanked Tori and Trisha Bannister for staying 4 plus hours and helping out.

She reminded everyone that Wednesday, December 10th is Barnes and Noble day. There will be teachers reading from 6-8pm. A reminder e-mail will be sent to those who volunteered to wrap.

Lastly, she added these upcoming events.

TGI Friday's restaurant night is January 14th.

Bingo Night is February 6th.

Basket set up will be February 5th.

Spring Super 50/50 will be in April/May.

Adventure Aquarium has a new fundraiser; tickets can be purchased for \$11 and the school can resell them for whatever they want and keep the profit. The tickets are good all year and do not expire.

OLD BUSINESS:

E-board members – Tori stated that last month she spoke about making sure the word got out that people who have made the commitment to the e-board need to come to the meetings. She asked if there was any feedback. A discussion followed and it seemed to be the consensus that people should be called or e-mailed to see if they are still interested in being on the e-board.

Flyers – Tori asked that approved fliers continue to be sent on to: Debbie Hamm, Bev Braddock, Sue Bishop and Deb Conti.

NEW BUSINESS:

NJPTA Convention Certificates – Tori stated that our PTA received a couple of more certificates from the convention: Certificate of Participation for 2008 Website award, Arts in Education, and Presidents award.

Donation- Sue Bishop gave a brief speech about the passing of Debbie Dunn’s husband; Ken. Debbie was a long time member of the Alexander PTA. Sue stated that a collection would be taken from members of the current E-board to donate to the Dunn family on behalf of the children’s education fund.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

MCCPTA Founders Day Dinner – Tori stated that the Founders Day dinner is being held January 22nd this year; which is really early. She stated that a sign –up sheet is being circulated for anyone interested in attending.

Nominating Committee – Tori just wanted to remind everyone that we will be forming a nominating committee at the February executive board meeting. The nominating committee is responsible for polling all members of the executive board for potential candidates to fill officer positions which will become available effective 6/30/09 and presenting them to the E-board and the general membership. The positions of Corresponding Secretary and Recording secretary are all available. She stated that if anyone might be interested in these positions to speak to whoever is currently in that position to learn more about it. She would like to see the process go much smoother than last year.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT:

Mrs. Stevenson started off by saying that December is such a quick month. She continues to keep students on their quest for character education. She stated that the third grade students will be performing at next week’s general membership meeting.

There is a couple of class trips planned for this month. The 5th grade students will be going to McCarter theatre on the 17th and the 4th grade students will be going to the State House to culminate their study of NJ.

She went on to say that interim reports will be distributed on December 19th. Tuesday, December 23rd is a half day. She added that there will be a couple of long term subs joining us. Mrs. Zelins will be going out on maternity leave January 5th and Mrs. Chirichella will be doing the same February 17th. Mrs. Stevenson then turned the floor over to Mrs. Katz who announced that she is expecting some time in July.

Lastly, Mrs. Stevenson addressed the lice situation. She advised that they are doing everything possible to get rid of the problem. Mrs. Minogue is continually doing lice checks. She stated that some parents have found tea tree oil shampoo to be helpful.

GOOD OF THE ORDER OF ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tori distributed the following recognition certificates:

Sue Bishop- for organizing the Gift Card fundraiser

Debbie Hamm & Tricia Bannister- for their time at the Clothing Drive

Michelle- for staying to help with the Fall Fundraiser

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Debra Conti

Recording Secretary