

JAMES W. ALEXANDER PTA, INC.
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
November 10, 2009

CALL TO ORDER:

President Tori McMahan called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and led the flag salute. She welcomed teachers Mrs. Sabo and Mrs. Tobert and Mrs. Minogue and visitors. Mrs. Minogue gave a presentation on Influenza.

ESTABLISHING QUORUM: (Executive Committee)

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

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Secretary's Report: The minutes were distributed and will be filed as approved.

Treasurer's Report: Julie McGuiness reported from the Statement of Accounts for October 7, 2009 through November 10, 2009. A beginning balance of \$7,235.64, receipts of \$15,845.57, disbursements of \$19,254.09, and an ending balance of \$3,827.12. The report was filed for audit. (See copy of attached report.). Julie also reported that the taxes for last year will be done this week by the accountant.

Correspondence:

Jen Haley read correspondence from the Fifth Grade Teachers thanking us for the \$100 gift, another from the Mrs. Leopardi for the Enrichment Gift and also from Mrs. Palloti, Mrs. Bertothy and Mrs. Tobert to the Scholastic Book Fair Committee for the bagels and books.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Arts and Education – Rachel Sorrento reported that she picked up all entries on Wednesday for Reflections and there was a lot of participation from Third Grade this year and that Fourth and Fifth grades were mandatory. Judging will be done this week.

Educational Programs – Jamie Rosica reported that the first assembly was held on October 23, 2009 which was "Books, The Magic is Real." Jamie also reported that on Friday, January 15th, we will have another assembly, "Juggling for Success." Each grade will go down to the auditorium throughout the day and learn how to juggle. The day will conclude with an all school assembly followed by an evening component for families starting at 7 pm in auditorium. This will be a free event for families.

Family Activities – Jodi Morgan reported on Cindy Mimmo's behalf that the school fair was very successful and thanked everyone who participated.

Founders Day – Jodi Morgan reported that Founders Day is February 16, 2010 and that the first committee meeting will be held after the next Executive Board meeting.

Fundraising – Ellen Iorio reported that the Fall fundraiser pickup was today and profit was \$4,700. Ellen further stated that KidStuff books went out and we get 50% for each one sold, returned books or checks need to be back by November 30, 2009. Ellen further stated that the Thanksgiving Day pie sale is currently going on and orders are due by November 13, 2009. Ellen further stated that Gift Card flyers went out today and orders are due by November 20, 2009 with pickup at the general meeting on December 15, 2009. Ellen further stated that the Five Below fundraiser starts on November 22, 2009 and will run for three weeks and a flyer will be coming home. Ellen further stated that Barnes & Noble day will be Monday, November 30, 2009 and a sign-up sheet for wrapping was distributed and some teachers have already volunteered to read. Ellen further stated that the Second Annual Holiday Shop will be held during school hours on December 7, 8 and 9, 2009 from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. and a sign-up sheet was distributed for volunteers.

Membership - Kalyn Vizzoni reported that dues were just sent in at the end of October. As of today we have 367 members. Kalyn further reported that with regard to Kindergarten registration which will be in January, we have decided to purchase key chains for the incoming kindergartners and that the minimum order is 250 and should cost approximately \$200 with shipping and that should take us through three years.

Kalyn further reported regarding sweats and tees that the sale is complete and it did well. Sales were about \$2,200 and the total profit was \$183.35. She asked if we want to run a Spring sale, that would include tee shirts and shorts. The company worked out very well and she was very happy. They also do something for Field Day and it was decided that we will try a shirt sale for Field Day and also for Spring.

Recognitions – Debbie Johanssen reported that October was National School Lunch/Food Service Week and Katherine Schupsky, Alexander's Food Service Coordinator, was given a \$10 gift card to Central Perk, along with a note of appreciation.

Room Representatives – Sue Bishop reported that Halloween Parties went very well. Sue also stated that sweets were kept in moderation with a fair offering of healthy treats. Sue thanked all of the room representatives for making this kickoff celebration so much fun. Sue also noted that school parties are intended for Alexander School students and other arrangements should be made for younger siblings during party hours.

Scholastic Book Fair – Cindy Devine reported that the book fair went well but that we sold a little less than last year. Cindy will look into other book fair companies as the profit percentage was reduced this year from 30% to 25%. The profit was about \$1,600. Our Library received a huge box of books and teacher wish list books. Cindy also stated that during the book fair, some children went onto the stage and Mrs. Silver's desk was disrupted. When volunteering, children are not allowed to come and also some parents let kids come to the book fair while they attended teacher conferences. Cindy will

consider posting a sign that children are not allowed unattended. Cindy also reported that Summer Reading is a separate committee from Book Fair and she recommends that these committees be combined. It was discussed and decided that the two committees will combine.

Healthy, Safety and Environment – Julie McGuinness reported that she did confirm that that Aqua NJ research was complete. Secondly, a father researched a hole in the playground and now some new playground equipment will be ordered. Also, Kathy Register brought to her attention that there is a recycling project collecting bottle caps. Julie will send around flyers regarding this. Lastly, Julie reported that we will have a dance on February 11, 2010 and it will be during Heart Health month and we will be making a donation to the Heart Association, and also possibly doing a healthy snack contest. This committee has not met yet and she will continue to provide further information. Tori presented Certificates to Tara Blando for completing the Aqua NJ Water conversion and to Steve Leszcynski for being on top of getting us new playground equipment.

Fifth Grade Activities – Debbie Hamm thanked everyone who participated in the Election Day Bake Sale. After a bit of a rocky start, we managed to raise \$203.75 for Fifth Grade Activities. Deb also reported that upcoming events will include a Holiday Wreath Sale and Candy Cane Pen sale. Flyers will be sent home for both events shortly. Bev Braddock stated that the yearbook committee will be meeting and she recommended duplicating photos to send in for when your child reaches Fifth grade. The committee has already met to discuss the end of year party and the Fifth graders chose the yearbook color.

OLD BUSINESS: Tori McMahon reminded everyone that all flyers should be on letterhead and sent to herself and Jodi and once approved to Debbie Hamm for Historical yearbook, Bev Braddock for the website, Sue Bishop for HTV and Deb Conti to send to room moms for our going green campaign.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Tori requested to be sure to include on any flyers going out for the fundraisers to remind people to write their phone number and student's names on the checks. It makes collecting monies from bounced checks much easier.

Tori reported that at the Fall County Council dinner, we received awards for 100% Teacher membership and Focus on Fathers for 25% of membership is male.

Tori further reported that certificates were received via mail for Healthy Lifestyles, Newsletter, Website and Nutrition.

Tori further reported that the Awards Banquet will be held on December 2, 2009 and we will be receiving the award for Character Ed and Historical Yearbook and a Certificate of

Achievement for Father's PRIDE, which only has one First place and one runner up in the entire state of New Jersey.

Tori further stated that Jane Mohan sent correspondence in response to our Thank You regarding her efforts in assisting the Anderson Family and Tori read that correspondence.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Mrs. Stevenson reported that tomorrow Second grade is attending a field trip to the Academy of National Science. Mrs. Stevenson also stated that First marking period comes to end on Friday, American Education Week starts November 16, 2009 and parent visitation will be held that day. Further, she stated that on November 17, 2009 will be Turn Around Day for Fifth graders and that on November 20, 2009 report cards will come home. Further, she stated that on November 23, 2009 will be the assembly and on November 25, 2009 it will be a half day in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. Mrs. Stevenson also discussed the school budget which has already been developed for the 2010-2011 school year and that most of the money goes toward workbooks and teaching supplies, a portion goes to assembly programs and for purchase of student agendas, a small amount goes toward text books and library books, AV equipment and other miscellaneous items such as school supplies. The total budget is \$63,000. This year a new copier was purchased. Mrs. Stevenson said that she would like to increase technology if she could. Cindy Divine stated that ETS donates computers and she put us on the list and Mrs. Stevenson let her know that she will need to work with the Central Office Tech Support Department. Mrs. Stevenson also stated that staff training was held today on using the Smart Board.

Jamie Rosica asked if Mrs. Stevenson had any information about the H1N1 clinic at Crockett and Mrs. Minogue said that it was busy and both the mist and injection were offered but that might change. Jen Haley asked where the registration form is available and Mrs. Stevenson informed her that she had some and Mrs. Minogue said they should be available at the clinic also. Debbie Hamm asked if the nasal mist is two parts and Mrs. Minogue said it is which is why they are concentrating on younger children first and then to older children and back to the younger children to receive the second part.

Lori Skerratt asked about children with an asthma condition and if a Doctor's note is needed and Mrs. Minogue said it was not necessary since the child goes to a medical person who evaluates the medical needs prior to the vaccination.

Jodi Morgan asked if turkeys are being collected this year and they will be and can be dropped off on Monday, November 23, 2009.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Tricia E. Bannister

Recording Secretary