

JAMES W. ALEXANDER PTA, INC.
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
October 7, 2008

CALL TO ORDER:

President Tori McMahon called the meeting to order at 7:10pm and led the flag salute. Tori welcomed teacher representatives: Mrs. Camilleri, Miss Sabo, and Mrs. Tobert. She also welcomed any visitors that were in attendance.

ESTABLISHING QUORUM: (Executive Committee)

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

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Secretary's Report: The minutes were acknowledged and approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Tori presented the report from the Statement of Account for September 10, 2008 through October 7, 2008. A beginning balance of \$8,096.68, receipts of \$6,808.65, and disbursements of \$11,287.28 with an ending balance of \$3,618.05. The report was filed for audit. (See attached copy of report.) Lastly, Tori asked that anyone who needs a reimbursement to please hold off until we have more income.

Correspondence: Tammy reported that there is no correspondence to be read.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership- Jamie reported that as of yesterday we have 423 members. Mrs. LaDolcetta's class has 100% membership. She stated that all membership cards have been distributed except for a few that came in on Friday. She thanked Michelle for taking care of that.

Jamie added that we've had a problem this year with a few membership envelopes not making their way to the right box in the office. We're discussing possibly, for next year, putting a PTA Membership box (shoe box) in each classroom so these envelopes don't have to go from home, to backpack, to teacher's desk, down to the office and then hope it gets in the right box.

Lastly, Jamie was looking up the qualifications for Lifetime Membership thinking that we haven't had one in a while and stumbled across something. Becoming a lifetime member entitles you to attend the annual state convention and the lifetime member dinner but does not carry with it the right to vote, make motions or serve as an officer in the local PTA unless the recipient has a membership for that PTA. So, basically for years we've been giving our lifetime members complimentary memberships when we don't have to. She discussed this with Tori and Jodi and they agreed that we will stop sending the lifetime members membership cards except for Ms. Glonek as long as she is teaching

at Alexander. Jamie added that the first set of membership dues to the state will go out the end of this week as well as the Early Bird Membership award.

A motion was made to limit lifetime membership dues. Debbie Hamm made the first motion and Mrs. Queval made the second.

Three for Me- Jamie reported that the response has been good. Kathy Register used volunteers for the Summer Reading Ice Cream Party and Cindy Mimmo is using volunteers for the School Fair. Jamie reminded everyone that if you need any help from parents to please contact Kelly Sterns.

School Fair- Cindy Mimmo reported that the school fair will be held October 25. A help wanted flyer will be distributed if there is not enough help from the Three for Me people. She added that there will be hayrides, pumpkins, the bike man, great giveaways and many more fun activities.

Budget and Finance- Ellen reported that the fall fundraiser went well. It is however \$2,000 less than last year. The pick up for the fundraiser will be held November 11, 2008. The Friendly's fundraiser made a profit of \$207.00 which she will be picking up tomorrow.

Ellen thanked Cindy for organizing the mum sale. She added that the BJ's membership flyer will be going out soon. There is also a recycle clothes day scheduled for November 22 at the school. It includes all soft items and toys. We will receive money for the pounds of items we collect.

Lastly, she added that December 10 is the Barnes & Noble fundraiser. She is hoping to have PTA members there to gift wrap and teachers there to read. There will also be pies for sale in time for Thanksgiving.

Book Fair- The Scholastic book fair is scheduled for the week of conferences. It will be staffed by Three for Me volunteers.

Summer Reading- Kim Flood reported that the ice cream party will be held Friday October 10 at 1:15 in the all purpose room. If you can help be there at 1:15 with a scoop. There are about 150 students who will be participating.

Reflections- Rachel reported that the theme for Reflections is WOW! She is hoping to do a mural during recess on October 16 to start the week off. They will be tracing their hand and telling what wows them. There will be an art show of past winners October 30 after school in the library. Students will be given Reflection directions on October 14 and their entry will be due November 19, 2008.

Family Activities- Cindy reported that the fall mum sale raised \$300. She thanked everyone for their support. Lastly, she added that there will be an ice skating party some time in the winter.

Room Representatives-Sue Bishop reported that all room representatives for each classroom have been chosen at this time. On Friday, September 26th each room rep attended an informational meeting where they were given a procedural guide, class funds, and class lists. She stated that we are looking forward to a fun-filled year with the help of all of our enthusiastic volunteer classroom helpers! We appreciate all who have decided to give of their time and effort to make each celebration fun, healthy and safe for our children! Room representatives were informed of the importance of communication with the teachers and the teachers have expressed their gratitude for all of the help they receive throughout the school year. She added that as always, any questions can be directed to the room representative committee via phone or email.

Deb Conti added that we are trying to collect e-mails to alleviate some paper waste. We are going to communicate upcoming events through our room moms. She stated that we will be sure to have everyone do a blind copy to ensure our confidentiality procedure is followed.

Special Treats- Deb Conti stated that the treats will be offered on full days instead of half days. She will have a list of dates by the next meeting. One definite day will be Dr. Seuss day on March 2, 2009.

Hospitality- Sue reported that Back to School Night went really well. She thanked everyone for their donations. She also thanked her committee for a great job that night.

Fifth Grade Activities- Kim Flood reported that they held their first meeting in September. There were fifteen people in attendance. There were sign up sheets for committees to chair as follows: t-shirts, awards night, fundraising, celebrations, and baby board. She stated that there is a co-chair for yearbook but they are in need of another person; they are hoping to get last year's mom to help.

Health, Safety and Environment- Liz Angelucci reported that October 16 will be Shapedown night. It will be held from 6pm -8pm.

Founders Day- Jodi reported that there will be a meeting October 28 for everyone who signed up to help with our 45th Birthday Celebration. There are 11 teachers to be honored and it is Miss Glonek's 40th year with us.

OLD BUSINESS:

Standing Rules Revision- Tori stated that the changes that were discussed at the last meeting have been e-mailed to everyone. There are additional copies available at the table. There was a motion presented to have the cost of PTA dinners split between all attendees once the allotted amount is factored in. Jamie made the first motion and Cindy Mimmo made the second.

Flyers- Tori asked that we continue to make sure that all flyers are on letter head and sent to Jodi and Tori. She asked that once they are approved send them to Debbie Hamm for Historical yearbook, Bev Braddock for the website, Sue Bishop for HTV and Deb Conti to send to her room mom's for our going green campaign.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tori stated that there was no new business to be addressed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Tori asked that we please let her know if you have not received a folder yet. She has additional copies of the updated Executive Board members list and class lists in case we didn't print them out in the e-mail she sent.

2008 Fall Legislative Day - Tori asked that if anyone is interested in attending Legislative Day she has the information with her. The date is Wednesday October 15th and is from 9:30-2:30. The registration fee will be covered by monies from our PTA budget.

Tori stated that Jodi attended the Chartwells meeting this afternoon for her. Jodi reported that Chartwells would like everyone to begin pre-paying lunches. She stated that a check can be made out to Hamilton Township and you can make it for any amount and your child will receive lunches until that amount is used.

They are offering cheese sandwiches as an alternative at Alexander because of our peanut allergies. They have added new foods like: Caesar salad, fruited jello, oven roasted chicken, corn bread, and personal pan pizzas. They are following the new nutritional guidelines.

NJPTA News: Tori stated that we were the recipient of 2 honorable mentions this year, one for Fathers P.R.I.D.E and one for Nutrition. She printed out what was written if anyone is interested. She will be sending around a sign up sheet for those interested in attending this years' dinner which will be held Monday night November 10th. The cost is \$43 per person, but we have a \$500 budget for this and will be able to defray the cost of each person's ticket. Tori then turned the floor over to April.

April was very proud to report that the Historical Yearbook placed third in the state. We will receive our award at the PTA dinner.

Tori then turned the floor over to Mrs. Stevenson.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Mrs. Stevenson started off by saying it has been an excellent start to the school year. There are many events scheduled already for October. She stated that school will be closed Thursday and Monday. The staff does report to school on Monday but not the students. The week of October 21st is conference week.

She stated that school pictures will be taken October 27th and 28th. Lastly, there is an assembly scheduled for October 27th. It is The Legend of Sleepy Hollow; everyone is looking forward to this in time for Halloween.

GOOD OF THE ORDER OF ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tori distributed recognition certificates as follows: Ellen Iorio, Kathy Register, and Debbie Hamm for collecting juice pouches to recycle and Tara Blando for getting pedometers donated.

There being no further business Tori adjourned the meeting at 8pm.

Debra Conti

Recording Secretary