

## SS PALMER PTO MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 20, 2010

- Meeting called to order by PTO president Mary Jo King at 7:00pm
- Introduction of PTO officers by Mary Jo: President, Mary Jo King; Vice President, Nicki Frank; Secretary, Julie Stroup; Treasurer, Chris Leshner. All were present at the meeting.
- Minutes from May's meeting were attached to be read. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Anne Howard and seconded by Charles Gildner.
- Membership update: given by Julie Stroup. Memberships are still flowing in. Right now, we have received \$339 in memberships (339 members) and \$105 in donations.
- Treasurer's report is attached to the agenda for your review. Please note that there is a new account, the Playground Fund, which contains money to develop the coal bowl. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Marge Beahm and seconded by Missy Kolnik.

### OLD BUSINESS

- **Community Festival:** update given by Michele O'Neill. Thanks so much to everyone who helped volunteer, donated, and purchased crepes at the stand. It was a huge success. The profit this year was \$1,326.74. We will definitely be doing the crepes again next year. Please let Michele know if you have any feedback regarding the crepes, the process, anything. It would be greatly appreciated.
- **Fall Fundraiser:** update given by Jess Nissen. Please see some fundraiser items on display tonight. Fundraisers went out on 9/8 and due back with money on 9/24. A meeting to go through everything will be held on Monday, 9/27 at Nicki Frank's house. Fundraiser pick-up dates are Mon & Tues, 11/22 and 11/23. The order will arrive on Friday 11/19 around 3:30. If you can help on any of those dates, please let Jess know and/or sign up. The fundraiser company this year donated a scooter. Any student that sells \$25 in product will be entered to win it!
- **Boxtops/Campbells Soup Labels:** update given by Jess Nissen. There will be a meeting on Sunday 10/23 @ 6:30 @ Jess Nissen's house to cut-up box tops, add points get them ready to ship out. Reminder information will be sent out prior to the meeting.
- **Kidz Stuff:** update given by Jen Tobia. Over 600 books were given out to students. About 150 have come back. So, a lot of books have to be sold or returned as of now.
- **Health Fair:** update given by new co-chair Larissa Kimmel. Towamensing PTO had a health fair last year and we joined in with them for this year. It was held on Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at the high school. Attendance was lower than what was anticipated. There were 20 vendors, 5 presentations, a book swap (over 300 books swapped), health screenings (BP, blood screening, etc). There was a profit of \$140.25 from the bake sale.

### NEW BUSINESS

- **New PTO website:** PTO now has our very own website. [www.sspalmerparksiddepto.org](http://www.sspalmerparksiddepto.org) It was developed by Becky Christman. She would like to train a PTO member to take care of the website maintenance. We will now be able to post any and all PTO information, information about meetings, deadlines, PTO meeting minutes, etc. Thanks to Anne Cronk who volunteered to do this!!!
- **Committee Chairs:** update given by Nicki Frank. Please see Nicki after the meeting if you are a committee chair. There is a new committee packet for this year. One open committee is Teacher Appreciation Luncheon. Thanks to Jen Sterner for taking this committee!!!
- **PTO Points:** update given by Julie Stroup. Points are accumulated when you help and or donate items at a PTO event/activity. The point cycle goes from March 1 to the following Feb 28<sup>th</sup>. These points are tallied under your child(ren) names and recorded whenever new sign-in sheets are presented to the Secretary. When it is field trip time, teachers ask for PTO member

listings for their classes. Names of PTO members are given in point order. Therefore, those members with the most points (at least 3 per classroom) are chosen to attend the fieldtrip. If there is a medical reason for a parent to attend a fieldtrip, they must be a PTO member and they will NOT take a spot away from another PTO member. Please see the bylaws (copies are available tonight) for a detailed explanation. Any questions regarding points can be asked anytime to an officer.

- **Market Day:** update given by Pam Andrews. Market Day has been in the fundraiser business for 30 years. Market Day provides a variety of items from appetizers to desserts. SSPalmer has been participating in Market Day since 2008. Proceeds from Market Day sales goes to pay for yearbooks for all 6<sup>th</sup> graders. The proceeds from the summer Market Day sales go to the playground fund. If interested in ordering, you can go online to get a ton of information about their food, order, redeem discounts, etc. Market Day has a 100% satisfaction guarantee on their products. Look for monthly flyers to go home with your child. October's order is due by October 11. The next pickup (which is always on a Saturday morning from 9-11) is October 16<sup>th</sup>.
- **Book Fair:** update given by Mary Jo King for Kay Goodhile. The SS Palmer bookfair will be Oct 18-22. Flyers will go home reminding parents about the sale and asking for volunteer help/donations. Students will shop during their library time. The Parkside bookfair update was given by Nicki Frank. It will be held Oct 12 & 13 with family nights from 5-7. If you would like to help, please see Nicki. She has the schedule of when each class will shop. Look for an email going out requesting help soon.
- **Christmas Gifts:** update given by Lisa Leshner. A meeting will be held in October. An email reminder will go out to the committee. Committee members should start thinking of potential gift ideas. PTO usually approves a \$10-\$15 limit per child. If you have any ideas, please bring them to the meeting
- **Cider & Donuts:** update given by Mary Jo for Tiff Christman. This is the Halloween parade and surrounding festivities. PTO set up stands in the park for the children last year and distributed donuts, popcorn and juice to the students. There is a specific parade route all classrooms will utilize and will be going home with students when more details are worked out. This event will be held on Oct 29<sup>th</sup>.
- **Dance:** update given by Linda Koch for Vicki Haupt. All the dances for the year have been approved. The Halloween Dance is on Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup> 3:00-5:30 in the gym. Dances are for 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders only. Papers will be going home for donations of drinks, snacks, chaperone help. Students will be able to wear their costumes to the dance (since the parade is the same day).
- **Beautification:** update given by Mary Jo for Jayne Dietz. This committee does a fall/spring cleanup around the school and decorating for the various seasons. Look for a committee meeting notice shortly.
- **Halloween Costume Swap:** new committee developed and chaired by Deb Taylor. The concept is the same as the clothing swap. Much cheaper than buying a new costume each year. Bins will be available for drop-off. This will take place on Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. Setup will be that day after the last lunch.
- **Clothing Swap:** will be help at the end of October. This is always a huge success. Donate one item of clothing and take as much as you need. Left-over clothing is donated to a local church to utilize.
- **Hospitality:** update given by Julie Stroup. This committee provides the food and beverages for PTO meetings and greets members at the door. Emails will go out prior to each meeting asking for donations of various items depending upon the theme of the meeting.
- **Rainbow:** update given by Mary Jo. \$25 gifts are given to students, teachers, crossing guards who are suffering, sick, experience a death in the immediate family, give birth, etc. PTO is looking for someone at the school to let us know when these events occur.

- **Childcare:** update given by Rose Henning. Childcare will now be provided on-site during PTO meetings. Members from the Junior High Honor Society will be volunteering their time with the children, along with committee members.
- **Santa's Workshop:** update given by Anne Howard for SS Palmer. It will take place Dec 6<sup>th</sup>-Dec 10<sup>th</sup> at SS Palmer. Flyers will go home in November asking for donations of wrapping paper, tape, etc. The workshop at Parkside will be held on Dec 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Nicki Frank will be contacting the Parkside committee asking for the same donations and volunteer help. Volunteers will be needed that week to help students shop, wrap their gifts, etc.
- **School Board/Coal Bowl:** The coal bowl is complete with sod now and will be ready to be played upon as soon as the grass takes root. As money comes in, new equipment can be purchased through the district (they get a good discount that they agreed to pass on to us). The next school board meeting is Tues, Sept 21 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Parkside. Any PTO member that attends the meeting and reports on it at the next PTO meeting will get points for their attendance.
- **Ink Cartridges:** update given by Anne Cronk for Tricia Steinmetz. PTO earns money by sending in used ink cartridges, cell phones, gps, video games, game consoles, ipods, etc. Tricia will be sending flyers home asking for these items. Look for a committee meeting email soon.
- **Presidents Report:** update given by Mary Jo. A new librarian just started this year. PTO volunteer help is needed in the library to log books, etc. This committee will help the librarian on a regularly scheduled basis and earn PTO points at the same time. Thanks to Becky Christman and Ann Howard for volunteering to take on this committee.
- **Principals Report:** update given by Mary Brumbach. There are 625 students attending Parkside and SS Palmer this year. The monthly newsletter will continue this year which will include all the important dates we need to know about as parents. To reduce paperwork this year, all informative items will go home with the youngest student in a family. Also, a new service is in place this year which will call all phone numbers listed on a child's emergency form to inform parents about early dismissals, delays, etc. Just a reminder to parents that upon entering the schools, please proceed to the office immediately to sign in. Also this year, the Pledge of Allegiance will be said as a school every morning. Please note there is no school on 9/22 and 10/11. Picture re-take day is 10/28.
- **Superintendent, Carol Boyce:** Thanks to all parents/PTO members for all of your efforts. Just to reinforce what Mary Jo mentioned about voicing specific classroom concerns, please go by policy #906: issues must be taken to the most immediate level first (teacher, principal then superintendent).

## NOTES & QUESTIONS

- Charles Gildner is running for school board in 2011. He is looking for PTO support.
- Pam Andrews noted that pictures for the yearbook need to be given to her on disk as emailing them isn't working correctly. Pictures from any and all school activities are needed and appreciated!

Door Prizes were handed out.  
Meeting was adjourned.

**NEXT PTO MEETING IS NOVEMBER 16, 2009**