

SS PALMER PTO MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 28, 2011

- Meeting called to order by PTO president Mary Jo King at 7:00pm
- Minutes from January's meeting were attached to the agenda to be read. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Missy Kolnik and Anne Howard.
- Treasurer's report is attached to the agenda for your review. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Missy Kolnik and seconded by Jen Shinsky.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Book Fair:** update given by Nicki Frank. The book fair did really well. With the Carnival theme for this fair, sales were \$3,133.39. The One for Books generated \$246.72. In the classroom that generated the highest amount, each child was awarded a book. At the two Carnival nights, there was \$312 in food sales. PTO sold hot dogs, soda, funnel cake, snow cones, etc and games were played as well. Each classroom at Parkside and the library received \$100 in books. In addition, reading aids were given \$50 in books. There was enough profit to make sure each 1st grader will receive an end of year gift of a \$5 book. At SS Palmer, the book fair did well. Teachers shopped for books with any profit that was made. Mrs. Beckley's class won the One for Books and will receive an ice-cream party.
- **Dance:** update given by Mary Jo for Vicki Haupt. The Valentine's Dance went really smoothly. The next dance on the schedule for this year is the Farewell Dance on May 20th from 6-8:30pm. A LOT of food and drink donations will be needed for this dance since everything is FREE for the students, including admission to the dance. Mrs. Brumbach inquired how we can reduce the traffic in the office the day of the dance due to missing permission slips, money, etc. A suggestion was made to put the permission slip on the PTO website so parents can download it, print it, sign it, and hand it in well in advance of a dance.
- **Spring Fundraiser:** update given by Julie Stroup. Fundraisers were due back to school on February 24th, with some still trickling in. A committee meeting was held over the past weekend to sort, count, and go through all of the fundraisers. So far, it looks pretty successful. Exact sales figures will be presented at the April meeting. The Krispy Kreme donut fundraiser was really successful! PTO sold over \$3,300 in donuts with our profit being a little over \$1,500! Donut pickup is Sunday, March 6th from 12:30-2:00 pm at the Palmerton High School cafeteria. Dates for pickup of pizzas and candy at west end fire co are 3/24-3/25 for K-2 and 3/31-4/1 for grades 3-6. The Gianni's items will be available for pickup on Saturday, April 16th from 10-11am at the Palmerton High School cafeteria (this is in conjunction with a Market Day pickup).
- **Basket Social/Bake Sale/Kid's Bingo:** update given by Mary Jo. This year's bingo/bake sale will be held on Sunday, March 27th from 10am-3pm. It will be held in the Palmerton High School cafeteria. A flyer will be going home asking for donations. Each classroom is responsible for a specific basket and donations. No Kids Bingo will be held this year because there hasn't been enough time to prepare for that big of an event. Planning will begin earlier next year for that so it will be successful.
- **Market Day:** update given by Pam Andrews. Thank you to everyone who helps during the pickups. The next pickup date is Saturday, March 19th at the Palmerton High School. Volunteer help is needed from 9am-11am that day. The deadline to order this month is March 14th. Keep in mind that in Jan, Feb, March 10% of your purchase goes to offset the cost of your child's yearbook. This month's specials are Free Seasoning Salt for purchases over \$40, free pork tenderloin for purchases over \$90, and a 3 drawer file that was a promotion over a few months. All yearbooks for the 6th graders have been paid for already with proceeds from Market Day sales.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Principal's Report:** update given by Mrs. Brumbach. PSSAs will be held during the week of March 14th for all 3-6 graders. The week of March 21st will be reserved for make-ups. Kindergarten registration began today, Feb 28th. Title 1 Family Night will be held Thursday, March 10th at 6pm. Information will be going home with more details. Thanks for all that PTO does! Please feel free to contact Mrs. Brumbach with any questions or concerns via email or phone.
- **Committee Chair Positions/Postings:** update given by Mary Jo. Please see the PTO website or the mass email you have received regarding this. An abundance of people are interested in taking over committee chair positions this year ☺ In order to be fair and give an equal opportunity for all, open chair positions will be posted on the PTO website. If you're interested in a position, please fill out the form online. This form will go right to the officers who will then make a decision as to who will chair the committees (along with the principal if need be). All committees will need at least 2 people to chair them to ensure there is back-up. If any committee chairs are interested in stepping down, please let officers know ASAP. So far, the open committees are: Book Fair Palmer, Santa's W/S Parkside, Spring Fundraiser (needing 2-4 people), Clothing Swap, Dance, JR4H, Beautification, and Ink Cartridges.
- **Festival Committee:** update given by Mary Jo for Michele O'Neill. Michele attended the first Festival meeting held in Palmerton. This year the rental fee has increased by 10% to \$291.50. A motion to pay this fee was made by Anne Cronk and seconded by Anne Howard. This year the festival will have no Monday raindays, therefore, stands will be open rain or shine. This year our stand will be open for breakfast as well.
- **Playground Committee:** update given by Mary Jo. She met with the Superintendent and board President to discuss the mulched area of the playground. Right now, there is enough money to purchase 5-6 pieces of playground equipment!!! Best case scenario is that these items can be purchased and installed by June 15th. If not, a formal dedication can be done for Sept 2011 ☺
- **Presidents Report:** update given by Mary Jo. If anyone is interested in signing up to be a part of the Health Fair committee, please see Larissa Kimmel who is co-chairing this committee with Becky Anthony. A tentative date has been set for this year's fair of November 5th at SS Palmer. The school nurse is looking for donations of sweatpants, tshirts, and sweatshirts to provide to children who have gotten sick in school and need to change into clean clothing. Sizes needed are 5-6 at Parkside and 7-up at Palmer. PTO here along with Towamensing and the Catholic school are looking to bring back the DARE program for our 6th graders (it was ended a few years ago because state funding ended). This program is very beneficial and will provide awareness about alcohol and drug use. If the three schools all chip in to bring the program back, we might incur a cost of \$1,500. This is still being researched. More news will follow.
- **School Board Committee:** update given by Mary Jo. At the school board meeting last month, Mrs. Storm had a few students speak at the meeting about the benefits of the after-school programs at the school. They did REALLY WELL. The next meeting is on March 15th at 7pm on the 3rd floor at Parkside. Members of the public are also welcome to attend board workshop meetings. The next one will be held on March 1st at 5pm. This one will impact all students and we encourage parents to attend. The board will be discussing the Impact Plan, a free service offered by OAA to all students grades 9-12. It deals with student athletes and concussions.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

- Maybe teachers need to be sending notes home requesting items such as tissues and hand sanitizer. It seems like some classrooms are short on supplies of these items
- There was a question about when the last day of school is but that isn't definite yet since it hasn't been voted on by the school board yet.

Door Prizes were handed out.

Meeting was adjourned.

NEXT PTO MEETING IS MARCH 21, 2011