

SS PALMER PTO MINUTES FROM MAY 16, 2011

- Meeting called to order by PTO president Mary Jo King at 7:00pm
- Mary Jo introduced our guest speaker, Mr. Palazzo to speak about the end of year SOAR celebration. This end of year celebration will be held June 2nd (June 3rd is the rain date) in the parking lot next to SS Palmer. Students may take tickets they earned all year and use them for various games, food, etc. Mr. Palazzo is looking for donations of food machines such as a popcorn machine, etc. He also is requesting to borrow PTO's drink coolers for that day. PTO volunteers will be needed to work at various game stations. PTO points will be awarded for your time. A sign up sheet is on the front table to sign up if you're interested.
- Minutes from April's meeting were attached to the agenda to be read. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Anne Cronk and Rose Henning.
- Treasurer's report is attached to the agenda for your review. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Michele O'Neill and Anne Cronk. Per review of our ending checkbook balance, Chris recommended that we keep the CD in the bank to continue earning interest since we are ahead of where we were last year at this time. A motion was made by Annette Gruber and seconded by Rose Henning to leave the CD in the bank

OLD BUSINESS

- **Election of Officers:** update given by Anne Cronk. All the nomination sheets went home with students weeks ago. Only 50 ballots were returned all suggesting no change in any of the current officers. Anne made a motion to accept the re-election of the current officers and it was seconded by Jen Shinsky (with no one opposing). So, our officers remain the same for the upcoming school year.
- **Mother's Day Plant Sale:** update given by Chris Leshner for Lisa Leshner. The sale went well at both Parkside and SS Palmer. We did not run out of flowers this year...117 were donated to the Beautification committee which were planted over at Parkside.
- **Spring Farewell Dance:** update given by Mary Jo for Vicki Haupt. The dance will be held on May 20th from 6-8:30pm. This dance is free of cost to the students. They do not pay admission or for food or drinks. Lots of donations of food and drinks will be needed for this night and appreciated.
- **Market Day:** update given by Mary Jo for Pam Andrews. Thanks to everyone that helped at the last pickup. The LAST SALE until September will be on Sat May 21st. Orders are due by May 16th. Volunteers will be needed that day from 9-11am at the high school cafeteria for unpacking, sorting, and distributing orders. Please forward field trip pictures, etc to Pam as soon as you can.
- **Play Day/Track & Field Day:** update given by Chris Leshner. Sheets went home last month designating all the days/times of the field days for the grades and asking for volunteer help. Please note that the 2nd and 3rd grade dates have changed. Ryan Heller will be in touch with you if you volunteered to help. PTO needs 1-2 people for the K-3 field days to fill the 5 gallon jugs with water and Gatorade and get the cups out. Also, to rinse out the jugs and take them back to the school. The Track and Field day for 4-6 graders will be at the high school on May 25th. PTO will continue to provide drinks for the students for that day.
- **School Board:** update given by Mary Jo. The agenda for all school board meetings is posted on the district website. You are always very welcome to attend the meetings. If you care to speak about an agenda item, you must note that when you sign in to the meeting. Please try to attend tomorrow night's school board meeting, Tues, May 1th at 7pm. This meeting will be held in the high school auditorium. Budget issues will be discussed and the cuts that may be made to our children's programs are scary! Please go to support our children!!
- **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon:** update given by Mary Jo. The luncheons at both schools were very successful and the teachers loved all the food (they ate well that whole week). In the past, PTO used to leave small gifts on teacher's desks each day of the week. This year, considering all the budget cuts that might happen, PTO decided to save that money and asked the teachers to let us know what they might need for next year. That way we can give them something they need for the school.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Committee Chair Update:** update given by Nicki Frank. Please see the PTO website for available committee positions and the application to become a chairperson. Keep checking during the summer also as positions may open up.
- **Spring Farewell Dance:** update given by Julie Stroup for Vicki Haupt. The dance will be held on May 20th from 6-8:30pm. This dance is free of cost to the students. They do not pay admission or for food or drinks. Lots of donations of food and drinks will be needed for this night and appreciated. Also, donations of white lights and white tool are requested for decorating for this dance. Set-up will be at approximately 2pm on Friday. Volunteer help will be needed for set-up, chaperoning, and clean up. The DJ is requesting a deposit of \$193.75 to hold the dates for the 4 dances for next school year. A motion was made by Charles Gildner and seconded by Missi Kolnik for us to secure the DJ with the deposit of \$193.75.
- **Festival Committee:** update given by Michele O'Neill. The festival will be Sept 9-11th. PTO will be doing crepes again this year and will be adding a new warm apple flavor. Also, our stand will be open for breakfast and will need extra help during that time. If you know of new parents to our PTO for next year, please invite them to help with the festival since the festival is so soon after the start of the school year. The committee is looking for donations of serving spoons, mixing spoons, spatulas, cutting boards, sharp knives, dry and wet measuring spoons and cups to start establishing a festival kitchen. Also, the stand will need a crock pot that does a warm setting for the warm apples. PTO points will be given for donations. Michele will be emailing/calling people this summer for various meetings.
- **Playground:** update given by Mary Jo. Mary Jo and Chris presented the school board with the check for the equipment at the last school board meeting. A LOT of PTO volunteers will be needed to help construct the equipment. We are looking at an installation on the 1st or 2nd Saturday in June. Look for a mass email/calls for help with installation.
- **President's Report:** update given by Mary Jo. She just wanted to say thanks to everyone for all of the volunteer help, donations, etc throughout the school year. The children, staff and PTO officers appreciated all of it!! Hope to see you all volunteering next year too!!
- **Principal's Report:** update given by Mrs. Brumbach. She is seconding Mary Jo's comments regarding thanks to everyone for all their volunteer help throughout the school year! It does not go unnoticed. The children and staff truly appreciate it! Just a note regarding the Alert Now system...when you receive a call, you have to say something to initiate the message. Upcoming music events are on 5/24 for a combined Towamensing and SS Palmer band concert at the high school; 6/2 choral concert in the SS Palmer gym; and 6/3 K & 1st grade concert outside. On Wednesday 5/18, a SOAR Family Fun night will be held at Towamensing. The Farewell Dance for 5th & 6th graders will be held this Friday, 5/20. A note to parents, when you get a chance to come into the school, please check through the lost & found items bench outside the school office. 6/8 and 6/9 are half days with dismissal at 11:45. The last day of school is 6/9, graduation is 6/8. Details regarding the new dress code that will take affect beginning next school year may be found on the district website. Please keep this code in mind when shopping for clothing for the upcoming school year. Just a note that tomorrow, 5/17 is election day. Please go vote for school board members!!

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

- Charles Gildner announced that he was on the ballot for school board with Michael Ballard. Please vote tomorrow!
- Mrs. Brumbach spoke regarding the budget. 5 teachers were furloughed from SS Palmer/Parkside. This really hurts on top of all the other massive cuts made for next school year (including losing aids). Keep voicing your opinions regarding this to school board members. Let them know your concerns about increasing classroom sizes.

Door Prizes were handed out.

Meeting was adjourned.

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!!! HAVE A SAFE SUMMER!!!