

PTO MINUTES

SS Palmer/Parkside Elementary PTO Minutes

November 12, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Mary Jo King at 7:13 p.m.

In attendance

Mary Jo King – Present, Nicki Frank - Present, Brigitte White – Present, Christine Leshner – Present, Lisa Leshner – Present

Thanksgiving donation – Mary Jo thanked everyone for all the wonderful donations that we collected to feed a needy family in our school. This is the third year we are participating in this event and it has been a huge success. Mary Brumbach and her staff will decide on what family will receive a donation. We also like to give a gift certificate from a local store for a turkey and give it to the family. If you would like to make a donation, we ask that you don't send it to school with your child. You can drop it off at Mary Jo's house at 661 Lafayette Avenue. The last day for collections will be this Sunday. You can also email or call her to schedule a drop off.

Approval of Minutes

Correction under the October's president report regarding Giant Rewards. Mary Jo corrected herself stating...Anyone can register their card online not just Mrs. Brumbach. Mrs. Brumbach only has to register our school.

The minutes were read from the October's meeting and approved. Sue Novak made a motion to accept the minutes, and seconded by Amy Broadfield.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

The Treasurers report was read from October's meetings and approved. Jen Amey made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, and seconded by Angie Balch. The Kindergarten field trip that was scheduled on October 19th was postponed because of bad weather than rescheduled again however it is postponed once again due to Hurricane Sandy. As of now there isn't a rescheduled date, so the check is outstanding. She doesn't know if the check should be voided or what. We will wait and see what will happen.

Old Business – Committee Reports

- **Christmas Gifts** – report given by Lisa Leshner. There was a meeting on Thursday, November 8th at 6:30 p.m. in the PTO room 108 to decide on a gift. A decision was made. The gift will not be announced at this time due to children present. See Lisa after the meeting if you would like to know the item. Lisa is requesting a motion for maximum of \$12 item to be purchased. Robert Balch made a motion and seconded by Sue Novak. On December 17th at 6:00 p.m. we will be doing the wrapping of the item at SS Palmer. Santa's visit will be December 20th.
- **Halloween Parade** – Report given by Joe Gostonyi. The Halloween parade was on Sunday, October 21st at 4:00 p.m. The theme was SpongeBob Square pants. We received 2nd place for our float. Last year we received 4th place honorable mention. Great job on the float!
- **Fall Festivities** – Report was given by Mary Jo King. The fall festivities were October 26th in the park for both Parkside and SS Palmer. Mary Jo would like to thank everyone

on the committee for their help. It wasn't an all-night thing like last year; it was over by 9:15 p.m. The children received a brown paper bag with a Gatorade bottle, pretzels, and mixture of other items. The group pictures went very smooth this year with a lot of help organizing the groups. Thank you to Anne Cronk for the picture taking. This chair will be open next year if anyone is interested. Mary Jo will need help.

- **Dance** – Report given by Angie Balch. The first dance was Friday, October 26th from 3-5 right after school. Thank you for all the help and donations to make the event go very smooth. There was a little bit of excitement during the dance. The fog machine set off the fire alarm, so they all gathered in the parking lot where it was safe. The next dance will be December 14th from 3:30 -5:30. Mrs. Brumbach requested the time be pushed ahead some for less congestion and confusion. The children will remain in the school until the time of the dance. Donations and volunteers will be needed again for the dance in December.
- **Fall Fundraiser** – Report given by Lisa Kistler. We collected \$14,439 from the orders for Charleston Wrap and Profit was around \$6300. Plus the profit around \$2500 from the apple dumpling orders – we should be good with the Christmas gift this year. Delivery will be coming two days: November 19th from 10-12 and Tuesday November 20th from 10-11. Pick up will be November 20th from 12-6. We will need a lot of help to unload the truck and sort. On Tuesday, we definitely need a lot of help due to the lack of availability of the committee chairs. So if you can help out at all please contact Lisa or Brigitte and let them know. There was an Angry Birds plush given to us from Charleston Wrap for our fundraiser. We decided to take the children that sold order \$200 or more and put their name in a hat to be chosen tonight. Kylie Schleicher is the winner. It will be given to her at pick up.
- **Market Day** – Report given by Pam Andrews. Thank you for the people that helped in October. The next pick up will be Thursday, November 15th from 7-8, if anyone would like to help, please contact Pam Andrews.
- **Health Fair** – Report given by Larissa Kimmel. The fair was held on Saturday, November 3rd at Beltzville State Park from 9 a.m. -1 p.m. All kinds of health screenings and flu shots were available. It was very very cold... Next year it will be indoors. She would like to work together with the Resource Fair next year if she could. If anyone has any ideas or connections with a health care provider please let Larissa know.
- **SS Palmer Book Fair** – Reported by Lindsey German. Wrap up... thank you for all the help during the week of book fair. \$1163.08 was made doing the fair. February 19th – 22nd will be the next book fair. February will be more active then this past fall. The committee decided to go low key in the fall and go big in the Spring, with games, prizes and food. . As soon as information is available it will be passed along.
- **Bingo** – Report given by Anne Cronk. February 10, 2013 will be the date for the bingo at the Aqua Fire Co. Doors will open at 11 a.m. bingo will start at 1 p.m. This is a family friendly bingo. The cost is \$10 per bingo ticket. When you are doing your holiday shopping, please think of the PTO for donations of Board games, video games, movie passes, etc. for prizes to be given out. Remember small prizes as well, so all children can have a prize when they leave. If you donate a video game, a receipt must be accompanied with the item. On a receipt there is only a 30 day or so return policy of video games. If anyone knows of a business that would donate, that would be great and we will advertise the business through their donation. Anything that is donated please mark your name and child's name to ensure you receive your PTO points. Also, please think of the PTO if you should have baskets that you would like to donate. Anne

requested startup money for the event. Hall rental is \$250 and startup money \$300. Motion for startup money was made by Angie Balch and seconded by Michelle O'Neill. Flyers will be going home soon. If you have any questions, contact Becky or Anne.

- **Box tops** – Report given by Jen Sterner. In December we will be receiving a check for \$1466.68. October box top winning class was Ms. Strohl. They will be having a hot chocolate party this week. Mary Jo comments that we are doing a great job with box tops collections and money. Previous years we wouldn't even make \$1400 the whole year and now we are doing it in a couple months. Great job!

New Business - Committee Reports

- **Santa's Workshop** – reported by Ann Howard. The SS Palmer workshop set up will be Monday, December 3rd in the afternoon in Room 108 and children can shop the rest of the week. The event is scheduled for both schools during the first week of December. Lindsey will head the Parkside and Anne will head SS Palmer. Friday will be clean up. Parkside set up will be Monday, December 3rd in the morning. Parkside shopping will be December 4th and 5th in room 107. We appreciate donations of wrapping paper, tape, sticker labels and etc. for the kids to wrap their own items. This is easy PTO points to earn. The PTO does not profit from this. It is just an opportunity for our little ones to shop and be a part of the holiday season. An email will be sent with shopping time schedules for teachers when the information comes available. We will need donations of premade bags. Please see Anne at the end of the meeting for wrapping paper and instructions on how to wrap.
- **School Board meeting** – next meeting November 20th in the Parkside administration building on the third floor at 7 p.m. If you would like to review the agenda, it is on the Palmerton School District website under board link.
- **President's report** – Thank you again for the thanksgiving donations. We had a busy fall and now moving into a busy December that is coming up. If there is anything that you forgot that was decided tonight, you can just check the PTO website for the minutes. You can view the yahoo calendar for all the upcoming information you may be looking for as well. Mary Jo thanked Brigitte and Ann for the prompt meeting posts on the website. Child care: Volunteers are needed for January's PTO meeting. Reminder: there is no December PTO meeting due to the busy holiday time. This week (November 14th and 15th) is the thanksgiving lunches. Wednesday, November 14th is 2nd grade at 10:30 a.m. and 3rd grade at 11:30 p.m. Thursday is 4th 5th or 6th. It will be held in the gym and it is a very nice event for the families. PTO usually helps serve the food during this event. The help is serving only such as vegetables and drinks. There is no clean up involved. We really need a lot of help doing this time so if you are interested in helping, please see Mary Jo after the meeting and sign up. Resource Fair: The PTO was at the Resource fair that was held in October at the high school. Some of the PTO members created a trifold to decorate our table at the event. They did a great job and worked very hard on it. We had a lot of compliments on our organization about how active we are and what we do for our children. A gentleman commented that other PTO's don't do near what we do. We do a great job!

Principal's Report

- Principal Mary Brumbach apologies for her absence during October meeting. Her children had a surprise party for her and she took a vacation day. Weather – we used 3 days due to the hurricane two weeks ago and they are embedded into the calendar. We do not have to make up those 3 days. Anything from now and going forward, we will have to use other days that were scheduled for holidays to make up, if necessary. Conferences are next week and you should be signed up to meet with your child's teacher. If not, call the office to schedule something with the teacher. It is very important to know what's

going on with your child at school. Thanksgiving holiday is next week as well. Monday – Wednesday are ½ days and off Thursday, Friday and Monday. Christine mentioned Byler's farm Kindergarten field trip and we have no date rescheduled but Mrs. Brumbach will inform Mary Jo when information comes available. As Mrs. Balch mentioned it was an interesting dance. There were 5 kids in Mrs. Brumbach's office when the fire alarm went off. When she got downstairs to check on the children, the kids were out in the parking lot. She was very proud of the kids for going out in the parking lot and knowing what to do in the situation like this. She mentioned about Larissa's comment regarding the resources and health fairs for next year. Next year we would like to do in September. We want to limit the time from taking children out of class. There are a lot of cartridges to be recycled in the office, so if someone could take them out for recycling it would be appreciated.

- **Questions/Comments** – Jenn Sterner went over to the memorial in the park. She said the 3rd grade was there and they were excited about seeing the PTO brick was a part of the memorial. The memorial was presented on Sunday, November 11th due to Veteran's Day. Mary Jo said she was there and it was great and amazing. She encourages everyone to stop and see it.

Door Prize

Next Meeting

January 14, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., in S.S Palmer cafeteria

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:55 p.m. and was passed unanimously. A Motion was made by Jenn Sterner and seconded by Joe Gostonyi.