

Margaret Black Elementary PTO Meeting September 10th, 2009

Kristine Grabowski called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Present at the meeting were Kristine Grabowski, President; Nicole Bonucchi, Vice President; Emily Hughes, Secretary; Carrie Wyffels, Treasurer; Mrs. Caruso, Principal and Teacher representative Mrs. Cyak.

Parents present were: Dave Grabowski, Joe Fiori, Kim Mercier, Keith and Gail Spresser, Cathy Brown, Lisa Harness, Beth Kraemer, Tracey Price, Angie Burton, Anita Olsen, Jen Terry, Gina Ibri, and Conni Ring.

Treasurer's Report:

- Angie Burton's Market Day projection is a profit of \$2500
- The proposed budget for this 2009/2010 school year was presented
Motion to approve budget: Kim Mercier
Seconded: Laura Secchi
Motion passed

Secretary's Report:

- Quickbooks were donated for the new Treasurer
- June 2nd Secretary's Report reviewed
Motion to approve: Cathy Brown
Seconded: Anita Olsen
Motion passed

Principal's Report:

- Dare officer came to school to discuss Stranger Danger and brought identification kits for all the students. He reminded parents to have discussions with their children about these dangers frequently. Recess monitors have "walkie-talkies" and are in constant communication if they see strangers.
- Meet the Teacher night was a success! The superintendent was there to speak about the Bond proposal up for vote on November 3rd. Our school would be up for a partial roof and upgrading the computer systems. There would not be a new higher tax rate.
- Picture Day is the 22nd. Check backpacks on Friday for the information.
- There are some new members to the staff and they are a great fit.
- There is no service squad this year due to district cuts. Decision was made between safety and service squad. Students will still have the opportunity to help, just not under the "service squad" umbrella. Question was asked if a parent could lead the squad, but due to time constraints it wasn't advised. The clubs that remain are Student Council and Recycling Club.

- Parking lot safety was brought up and Mrs. Caruso will be working bus duty and moving on to the parking lot. Just asking for the parents help to keep things moving the way they need to.
- Teachers will be walking students to the busses and lunchroom.

Teachers' Representative:

- Mrs. Cyak thanked the parents for their involvement and thanked the PTO for all their help with camp; and she was appreciative of the Teacher's luncheon.

Committee Reports:

- **Market Day:** Angie Burton has sent flyers home. Wednesday the 16th the orders are due and the orders can be picked up Tuesday the 22nd. They are looking for about 5-6 volunteers to sort orders. They profited \$2200 last year and have a goal of \$2500 this year.
- **Box Tops for Education:** Joe Fiori (representing Kirsten) will have a contest starting in October. They're considering another contest versus Campbell Soup Labels. There will be a welcome back letter next week for collections. There is special run with Kmart for 70 extra box tops running through the 14th when you purchase 10 box top items. If you sign up with the Box top website the school will earn 5 points. Boxtops4education.com. There are also coupons and mailings through this site.
- **Birthday Books:** Patti Wilson (not present) Books are provided from the PTO for the kid's birthday celebration. Books are available for all age levels and given out at the beginning of the month.
- **Public Relations:** Nicole Bonucchi works with the local newspapers and the Sterling Heights channel to let them know what we are participating in. She is working on the contacts. Some ideas presented were a scrapbook and it was brought up that Magic 105.1 does the Pledge of Allegiance. Nicole also works on the message board outside the school and could use a volunteer to help change when needed.
- **Campbell Soup Labels:** Wendi Kenny (not present) might possibly be working with the Box tops in a contest. We get points for labels collected and usually redeem for gym equipment.
- **Coats for Kids:** Jennifer Terry is collecting coats of all sizes for charity. There is a box located in the front hallway of the school. The goal is one for each child. Last year she collected 150. Spread the word to neighbors. Collection ends Halloween. It was also brought up to check with the student council at the local high school to assist with the collection, so students can earn charity hours.

Old Business:

- Soccer goals were installed. We proposed \$5000 and the actual cost was \$3800. The nets will go up when the gym teacher starts teaching soccer and come down for the winter. It is not a regulation size field to discourage others from using the field
- Decided on having another Fun Run/Halloween party
- Decided on doing another cookie dough fundraiser in the spring
- We will continue with monthly Profit Share nights. Kim will call Jet's pizza to set up one for September, possibly the 30th. There will be a night at Abuelo's in October; the date will be announced later.

New Business:

- The “**Boo Hoo - Yahoo**” breakfast was a success. This gave parents a chance to get to know one another. We served coffee and punch. We’d like to thank Tim Horton’s for providing the donuts.
- At **Meet the Teacher Night** the PTO had a table set up to encourage volunteers and give information about what we do and when the meetings are.
- **Bond Proposal-** There was information set out for the Bond Proposal for review. “Citizens from Warren Consolidated Schools” had asked for a \$100 contribution for their campaign costs. Kristine Grabowski motioned to vote
The board approved this motion
The parents voted on this matter and it failed
- **Spirit Wear** is a new and exciting way to show your school spirit. The deadline is October 2nd. We will set up a night similar to Market Day to distribute in case some clothing is for gifts.
- **Red Ribbon Week** is the Nation Drug Prevention Week. We asked for a chairperson to head this committee and Lisa Harness will get back to us. Trinkets are handed out to remind us about drug prevention. A police demonstration is a possibility.
- **Fun Run** is the biggest fundraiser and is combined with the Halloween party. Teachers appreciated us taking over the party because it’s fair for all the students. Asked for chairperson and Jennifer Terry and Gina Ibri will chair. They will decide and get back to us on date for a planning meeting.
- **Website** needs to be done because it was taken out of the teacher’s responsibilities. Mr. Richardson (Emily Hughes’ father) has created a site and we need approval from the district. Hopefully this will cut down on the flyers being sent home and will give information to more parents.

Question and Answer:

- The PTO will now have a whole page for more information in the school newsletter.
- Reminder: Meijer, Target, and Gordon Food Service have cards that can earn percentages for our school.
- Are we still collecting Capri Sun and Nabisco wrappers? This is up to the recycling club. Ink cartridges can also be recycled and there is a box in the main office.
- Clifford Terry is the board trustee for our school. If you have questions you can ask him directly.

Next meeting will be October 6th.

Motion to adjourn: Lisa Harness

Seconded: Conni Ring

Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 8:13pm