

MINUTES

Birch Grove PTO Meeting

10/16/2007
7:00 PM to 8:15 PM
Birch Grove Media Center

Members Present: LeAnne Tieman, Lori Swedeen, Lisa Monson, Scott Noland, Lisa Cowart, Corrie Hoff, Pam Gangestad, Dawn Sivanich, Liisa Durkot, Eric Huser, Janean Huser, Jeff Carlson, Kati Carlson, Angela Thomas

Guests: First grade teachers: Sue Sullivan, Tyler Nelson, Maria Sowden

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes from the September 18 PTO meeting. MMS by Jeff Carlson/Liisa Durkot.

First Grade Teachers: Mrs. Sullivan spoke about some of the changes with teaching first grade, specifically how it relates to the way they teach math and how to meet the adequate yearly progress. Mrs. Sullivan also answered questions from the PTO members.

Committee Reports:

Gold C Fundraiser – Lisa Cowart recapped the event and distributed a very detailed spreadsheet with information from each classroom. The event will probably fall a little short of the \$2800 goal. Next year, Lisa would like to see materials go home to parents in other languages.

Scholastic Book Fair – Corrie Hoff recapped the first book fair which had just ended. The event took in about \$1862 in sales, which is significantly less than last year. Some of the sales for this first book fair went to Joan Magnuson in the Media Center to purchase some new books for the library. The remaining \$357 will go into the PTO fundraising effort. At the next book fair in February, Corrie has arranged to conduct the fair for the third day of conferences. Corrie also was pleased to have more volunteers than needed this year.

Geckler Fundraiser – Lori Swedeen reported that this fundraiser is underway and orders are due in tomorrow.

Turkey Bingo – LeAnne Tieman has been in contact with Katy Marcotte, chair for this event. Katy indicated that she emailed the names that LeAnne had sent for help, but she has not received responses from those parents. Katy is just starting to request donations and could use some help in this task. LeAnne will apply for the Gambling permit ASAP. It was suggested that a letter go out to all parents asking for donations for Turkey Bingo.

Burger King Night – the first event is coming up on October 25 from 4:30 to 7:00 pm.

PTO Positions: Lori Beattie has resigned from her position as PTO Secretary. LeAnne is looking to fill this position so please contact her if interested. The PTO is also still in need of a few more people willing to take a leadership role for some of our fundraising committees.

LeAnne announced that we do have a new Read-a-thon Chair. Carolyn Caldwell has taken on the planning for this event that will take place in February.

Proposed Budget for 2007-2008: Scott Noland handed out the proposed budget worksheet agreed upon by the PTO Board. Concerns about fundraising efforts falling short of the projected amount were discussed to see if some changes should be made to the expenses of the budget. It was decided that if our efforts are falling short toward the end of the year, we would try and schedule another fundraiser if needed. PTO members also discussed the possibility of charging for field trips in the future if funds are falling short. A motion was made to approve the budget as outlined by the PTO Board. MMS Lisa Cowart/Janean Huser.

New Budget Requests: Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Sobeich, made a request to the PTO to purchase 6 portable coolers for the school to own to use for lunches during field trips. Currently, the teachers have had to borrow coolers from the Kidstop program or teachers bring in their own. The total cost of this request is \$150. A motion was made to purchase 6 coolers. MMS Dawn Sivanich/Pam Gangestad

A request was made by Joan Magnuson, Media Specialist, for \$800 to supplement the funds from the Reading is Fundamental (RIF) grant. In the past few years, the budget for her to purchase books has decreased from \$2.03 per book to \$1.59 per book. The \$800 would allow her to get back to spending the \$2 a book and would allow Mrs. Magnuson to purchase better quality books for all students. A motion was made to approve the \$800 as a new budget request. MMS Lisa Cowart/Dawn Sivanich

New Business: Angela Thomas asked about updates to the recess concerns at Birch Grove. LeAnne indicated that a letter would be going home with students in the Wednesday envelope tomorrow as well as a reminder automated phone message going out to family phone numbers over the weekend. The letter states that a meeting will be held on Monday, October 22 at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next PTO Meeting: November 20, 2007 at 7:00-8:15 PM in the Media Center.

