

Ralph R. Smith PTA Minutes January 12, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Kris Palmer at 7:01 p.m.

Meeting was established by the following who were present: Karen Sperry, Jen Walker, Jim Welling, Kelley Marshall, Debi Knauss, MaryBeth Giesler, Thomas Molloy, Christine Molloy, Gillian Rush, Rebecca Tarkos, Kyle Tarkos, Tom Gannon, Kris Palmer, Rob Babcock, Marge Gibson-O'Mara, Rachael Frey, Jillian Foster, Jen McKay, Brian Wojszynski

Officers' reports

Secretary's report: The minutes were presented from the December 8th 2009 meeting. Gillian Rush motioned to accept the minutes as read. Second by Karen Sperry.

Treasurer's report: No report was given at this time.

Principal's Report:

The following items were discussed.

New principal

Melissa Lawson will start on February 1st as the new principal for Ralph R. Smith. Mr. Welling will spend two days with her to help with transition. She will be in and out of the classrooms the week of January 25th.

Fifth Grade Social Gathering

Mr. Welling and Gillian Rush have organized a social gathering for the fifth grade class on January 20th from 3:45-5:30pm. A form will be sent home this week for \$2.00 payment for event & permission slip to attend. There will be a DJ (Matt Wood of JetSet Entertainment and refreshments).

Committee Reports

PTA Council:

Rob Babcock and Tom Molloy report that the meeting focused mostly on parent involvement in decisions regarding our students. Carol Pickering agrees that parents' input should have been considered for the decision to take away finals at Haviland Middle School. Required Summer Reading program for high school students was discussed along with representatives asking for BLT meetings to be later in the evening so more parents can attend. These meetings at the present time are around 3:30pm. All Hyde Park principals are invited to the next meeting on February 1st. This will be Melissa Lawson's first day at RRS. PTA Council meetings are open to all.

Superintendent Update:Mr. Welling reports that a professional firm has been hired to help with the searching & hiring of a new superintendent.

Arts In Education:Gillian Rush reports that the assembly, Lazer & Subatomic Particle Workshop, will be on February 3rd 2010 in the auditorium. This assembly will now be for grades 2-5. The flyer went home. Gillian Rush would like to get a new chairperson in place for Arts in Education so we can get our forms submitted and use COSER funds for next year.

Old Business

Spirit Wear:

Products are in display case in lobby. Approval was made by administration office for color copies. This will be an ongoing fundraiser. We need 24 pieces to submit an order. There will also be staff apparel available.

1000 Books: Karen Sperry reports that Marie Diaz will chair this activity. There is a contract printed and ready to go home with students. Kick off will be January 26th 2010. Karen also reports that Joanne Arena is organizing spirit week. February 5th all students should wear the color of their favorite Super Bowl team. On February 12th students should wear red for Heart Day. Joanne is also trying to organize a program in gym for staff, students and parents to jump rope to raise funds for the heart Association.

Candy Bar Fundraiser: Still ongoing

Holiday Shop:

Marge Gibson-O'Mara reports that there was a lot of shoplifting done at this year's holiday shop. \$4,375.21 was deposited. This event is done as a service to our students. We usually make \$100.00.

Ultimate Discount Cards: Gillian Rush reports that she is sold out. We made \$4.00 per card. She sold 180 cards.

New Business

Family Fun Night:

February 5th 7-8:30pm. Admission is free. Event will include a DJ and a bake sale. This event still needs a chair. Fifth grade will be holding a bake sale during this event to raise funds. Gillian Rush is going to create a flyer.

Fundraisers:

Kris Palmer reports for George Desmond. He has picked two possible dates for fundraisers at the Knights of Columbus. March 13th -pancake breakfast and April 24th - spaghetti dinner. The PTA members discussed that since we already do the Applebees pancake fundraiser that we should focus all our energy on the spaghetti dinner. He also looked into personalized Purell holders, lanyards, and rubber bracelets.

Playground/ Monitors Concerns: The monitors have asked the PTA to purchase some items for the playground for students at recess who have to stay on blacktop. There are many kick-balls on the roof and no one can get them down. Mr. welling is going to look into how to get them down. Sleds were finally found and the students are very excited to be sleigh riding during recess. Marge Gibson-O'Mara makes a motion to spend up to \$200 on items for the playground. Second by Kelley Marshall. All in favor.

Lollipops: Jen McKay reports that she would like to chair this again. The PTA purchases a case of lollipops for \$120 and we sell each lollipop to the parents for \$1.00. A special message is on each card attached to the lollipop and delivered to the student during school hours. Last year we sold 413 lollipops.

Button Machine: Button machine broke, so no student in January received a birthday button. Kris Palmer had it fixed and it is back in business now.

Science Project Boards: Science project boards are for sale. \$3.00 for white boards and \$4.00 for

colored boards. Science fair on February 10th. Five staff members will run this event.

Yearbook: Marge Gibson-O'Mara reports there are three entries for, "Smitty makeover contest" so far. The due date is January 29th. Baby pictures are due now. Space in back of yearbook will be sold for parents or businesses to put an ad or a message in. Cost of yearbook is \$13.00.

Meeting is adjourned at 8:05 pm for PTA holiday party Submitted by Rebecca Tarkos