

## Ralph R. Smith PTA Meeting

February 9, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Kris Palmer at 7:03 p.m.

Meeting was established with the following people present: Tom Gannon, Heidi Colaizzo, Kris Palmer, Karen Sperry, Jen Walker, Debi Knauss, Kim Brady, Marybeth Giesler, George Desmond, Felipa Biamonte, Tracey Bodo, Kathleen Thompson, Tish Lange, Tracy Ansley, Gillian Rush, Tom Molloy, Rob Babcock, Jennifer McKay, Kelley Marshall, Marge Gibson-O'Mara, Melissa Lawson

### Officers' Reports

**Secretary's report** – The minutes were presented from the January 12, 2009 meeting. Rob Babcock motioned to accept the minutes as read. Second by Kelley Marshall.

**Treasurer's report** – The president reported that there is \$18,547.90 in the checking account.

**Principal's Report** – Mrs. Lawson expressed her happiness of being at Ralph R. Smith. She thanked the PTA for all of their support in providing the science assembly for the school. She also thanked everyone for the support they gave by donating items for the drive for the Haiti victims. Mrs. Lawson has been busy visiting all of the classrooms. She has sent home a survey for families to fill out. The survey is also available online. There has been a plan put into place for the anticipated snow storm and how it will affect the science fair. She reported that Dr. Seuss' birthday is on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and it will be celebrated by the primary grades in the school. Finally, Mrs. Lawson talked about PARP and how it would be good to coincide it with the upcoming book fair.

### Committee Reports

**PTA Council** – Rob Babcock reported that the administration in the district is devising ways to get information out better. They are developing a hierarchy of steps to use when informing families of important information. There will be a parent forum help on February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the district offices. This forum will discuss the topic of recommended summer reading for students.

**Arts in Education** – Gillian Rush reported that the school had the science assembly. She also reported that Cindy Gannon has volunteered to take over the Arts in Education duties for next year. Gillian will transition Cindy into this position.

**Newsletter** – Please e-mail Mary Ell Izzo with information.

### Unfinished Business

**Spirit Wear:** Tracy Ansley reported that orders are coming in. This will be an ongoing fundraiser. Order forms are in the main office. Some new items were shown at the meeting.

**Candy Bars-** George Desmond reported that the candy bars have almost sold out. George is still waiting for money from some people.

**1,000 Books** – Karen Sperry reported that the program is up and running. Mrs. Lawson is planning a reading night to encourage participation in the program.

**Discount Cards** – Gillian reported that there are a few left.

**Family Fun Night** – Kris Palmer reported that everything went well. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade bake sale made about \$200.00.

### New Business

**Read Aloud** – Jen Walker reported that she and Rachael Weichert are planning a read aloud for March 2<sup>nd</sup>. There will be a read aloud all morning with other activities as well. The children in k-2 will rotate among classrooms to do various things. The goal for next year is to have an assembly to kick off PARP with a school

wide read aloud day. Then have a celebration at the end of the day with cupcakes for all of the kids. Volunteers will be needed for this next year.

**PARP:** Debi Knauss will look into getting things started.

**Book Fair** - Kris Palmer reported that Cindy Gannon will co-chair this event with her. The Book Fair will run from March 5 –12, 2010.

**Nomination Committee** – Tom Gannon will take this on.

**Yearbook/Pre-orders, Ads...** - Marge Gibson-O'Mara reported that the order forms are out. Also, a note went home to parents about putting in a note for 5<sup>th</sup> graders and for advertising opportunity in the yearbook. The covers will be up in the front lobby display case for the kids to vote on.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Recorded by Heidi Colaizzo