

Valentine Hills PTA Meeting

February 23rd, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm

In attendance

Leta McDonald, Jane Kennedy, Cori Corgan, Janie Hecht, Jill Heuring, Maria Hermanson, Jen Mohlenhoff, Marre Jo Sager, Vanessa Ranallo, Jill Payne, Jennifer Labey, Lee-Ann Breuch, Amal Abukhaled, Sheila Treise, Nathan Flansburg, Teresa Walbon

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the January meeting were reviewed and approved, with a couple of clarifications.

Treasurer's Report

The checking account balance as of 2/23/09 is \$33,147.99. Designated money not paid out yet (totaling \$23,916.00) brings the available balance to \$9,231.99.

School Board Representative's Report

Marre Jo Sager reported the following:

- Transportation fee increases for next school year, for families who pay for busing, will increase slightly, \$5-10, but the family maximum will remain the same. The increase is based on information that was gathered about the use of busing by families within the busing-fee areas, as well as the increased expenses for the district for transportation.
- Co-curricular fees will increase slightly. The 9th grade special rates will be eliminated, with 9th graders paying the same rates for co-curricular activities as 10-12th graders.
- All vacant positions within each school will be reviewed to make a decision about the opening being filled.
- Summer projects at VHS include heating & cooling tunnels being rewired, carpeting on the remaining tiled ramps (over next 2 summers), and resurfacing of the parking lot.

Principal's Report

Principal Flansburg gave the following report:

- Kindergarten Roundup was restructured – families were divided into 3 groups (tour of school, information presentation, & bus ride). Free carnival tickets were given to incoming students. The K+ could have 2 full classrooms due to the numbers of kindergartners.
- The tunnels will be rewired, beginning as early as spring break, through the summer. This is being done to make sure no outages happen due to long-term damage by the flooding that took place in the tunnels in January.
- A computer virus attacked the district computers. Techs & volunteers have spent many hours cleaning up the problem. Email is up & running.
- The school carnival went very well. Many staff & parents helped out.

Old Business

Status reports were given:

School Carnival—Sheila Treise gave an update on the success of the carnival, which had a net income of \$3,478.52. It was not planned as a money-maker, but rather that it would break even with the income &

expenses. It was a big success, with many volunteers, including staff. Many local businesses donated items, which kept the costs down.

New Business

Grant Requests—Lia Reike made a grant request for \$250 to cover the cost of the Mad Science expo that took place for 3-5th graders. It was part of the science fair kick-off.

Spending Carnival Income?—There was a discussion about how the income from the school carnival could best be used. One idea was to pay for the Peaceful Playground program – This uses special paint & stencils to make game areas on the blacktop. After the initial expense, upkeep would include repainting every 1-2 years. Since the painting equipment would already be purchased initially, the cost would just be the paint itself. Stats show that schools that have implemented the Peaceful Playground program have seen a dramatic decrease in playground injuries.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.