

Valentine Hills PTA Meeting

October 27th, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

In attendance

Teresa Walbon, Jennifer Mohlenhoff, Jane Kennedy, Heather Lohman, Julie Anderson, Sheila Treise, Mary Lawrence, Cori Corgan, Janie Hecht, Marre Jo Sager, Jill Heuring, Miriam Hill, Mary Ortt, Nathan Flansburg, Lee-Ann Breuch, Maria Hermanson, Joan Wolf, Leta McDonald, Betty Henneberg, Dale A. Thiessen

Treasurer's Report

The checkbook balance is currently \$26,574.28.

School Board Representative's Report

Marre Jo Sager, our school board rep, reported the following: The school district hired a demographer to get a better idea of future enrollment trends. The decline in enrollment has slowed, but not stopped. Open enrollment is capped at 6-7%. The demographer's report is available on the district website. The custodial contract was ratified, with a 5% pay increase over the 2 year contract. Also, for future employees, post-employment benefits were eliminated.

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the September meeting were reviewed and approved.

Old Business

Status reports were given:

School Directories—Over \$500 was received in directory fees, & the cost to print was \$500. Approx. 30 opt-outs were processed. Directories will be sent home through kid-mail.

Dessert Socials—The kindergarten social had about 100 kindergarten children, the 2nd grade had 30-40 2nd graders in attendance. This is the last year that Mary Lawrence is in charge of the socials. It is recommended that we keep the kindergarten socials for sure, but not do socials for 3rd-5th grade at all. There is still money in the budget for a 1st grade social, if anyone wants to organize one.

Vision & Hearing Screening—The screenings went smoothly, especially since there were enough volunteers.

November Book Fair—The book fair is scheduled for next week, 11/4-11/6. It is open until 4pm on Tues, 6pm on Wed., & 8pm on Thurs.

Geckler Fundraiser—The fundraiser did well enough that Principal Flansburg spent a day up on the roof as he promised he would if the goal was met. Pick-up is next Thursday, 11/6.

Membership—We currently have 113 PTA members. Our Parent Rep. is taking care of cards for a couple of teachers who have had health-related problems. Elizabeth Mortenson was involved in sailboat accident this summer & is still recovering. Diane Lehmkuhl is retiring in November, following 2 heart attacks this summer.

Principal's Report

- Katie Hendrickson is staying on as the long-term sub for the school year, filling in for Mrs. Lehmkuhl, who is retiring early.

- The 621 Foundation has not granted any money so far for the Peaceful Playgrounds program at VHS, but Mr. Flansburg plans to make another grant request.

New Business

School Carnival—An initial planning meeting will take place on November 10th.

National PTA Week—Jen Mohlenhoff plans to fill out a grant request for our school carnival, since it falls within the National PTA week of February 9-13. Grants will be awarded from the National PTA to select PTAs who have a family/school event that week.

Grant Request—Liz Willson is requesting up to \$2000 for Biz Town, which is a yearly event for the 5th graders. Teachers & parent volunteers work with the kids for a day at Biz Town, in real-life types of situations, with “play” money. The teachers spend time on curriculum in the classroom as well. The 1st vote was carried to approve this grant. A 2nd vote will take place at the November meeting.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.