

Valentine Hills PTA Meeting

September 22nd, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm.

In attendance

Teresa Walbon, Jennifer Mohlenhoff, Kara McCoy, Jane Kennedy, Heather Lohman, Wendy Brandt, Julie Anderson, Heidi Boyum, Sheila Treise, Mary Lawrence, Cori Corgan, Janie Hecht, Marre Jo Sager, Jill Heuring, Sonnie Evans, Christine Hays, Brian Bambenek, Emily Spear, Miriam Hill, Mary Ortt, Julie Stromberg, Shawn O Dougherty, Nathan Flansburg, Mary Wentworth, Lee-Ann Breuch, Deb Fredrickson, Vish Sivaramakrishnan, & Sue Johnson

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and approved, with one correction: The bank balance as of May 19th was \$30,164.67, rather than \$31,164.67.

Treasurer's Report

The checkbook balance is \$9,248.93. The bank account has not been changed over to the new one, yet, because the bank requires more paperwork, including a copy of the articles of incorporation of the VHS PTA. Paperwork has been completed for filing the taxes as required, by November 15th.

School Board Representative's Report

Marre Jo Sager, our school board rep, gave a report from the School Board. The board continued to meet over the summer. Post-employment Benefits for retired employees is funded by the school district. Legislation allows for bonding to cover this expense. The potential bond amount could increase homeowner taxes by about \$20/year on a \$250,000 home. The school board will vote on the bond issue at their meeting on Tuesday, 9/23. The board allocated funding for 7 additional FTEs (full-time equivalents). The next levy is set to expire in 2009 or 2010, and would be voted on by residents.

Old Business

Status reports were given:

School Website—The website has been updated with PTA minutes from past meetings, as well as volunteer sign-up forms, & the calendar.

Principal's Report

- Staffing changes include the addition of three new teachers: Ms. Hays, Mr. Bambenek, & Ms. Michalski. Due to unexpected class sizes of around 28 per classroom in kindergarten, an additional p.m. session was added after the start of the school year. Currently, the class sizes are about 19-20 per classroom. Mrs. Lehmkuhl is retiring in November. She had planned to finish out the school year, but due to health-related issues, she will not.
- The district switched over to a new phone system this summer, & as a result, Valentine Hills has all new phone numbers.
- Principal Flansburg is trying to keep the website updated with a principal's blog.
- Carpeting was added to the ramp near the cafeteria, & will also be added to interior ramps in the future.
- A "thank you" to Joe Kroll, who completed the "Peace Garden" in front of the school for his Eagle Scout project.
- Please watch the website & Valentine View for information regarding the AYP growth targets & what our results mean.

New Business

School Directory—This year, anyone not wanting to be in the school directory will need to complete an “opt out” form. This is a change from last year’s “opt in” for the directory. Information in the directory will come from the district office student data system.

Shirt Sales—Orders were taken until 9/19. Shirts will be delivered in October.

Dessert Socials—The kindergarten social is 9/23, 2nd grade on 9/24. Since no parent/s volunteered to chair the 1st grade social, there will not be one this year.

Book Fair—The book fair at Barnes & Noble raised approximately \$700.

Vision & Hearing Screening—Please contact Wendy McDonald if you would like to volunteer, since we still need help.

Foreign Language—The school district is looking at adding world languages back into the curriculum, & it is being discussed by the school board. The change would not take place until next school year or later.

Carnival—On Monday, 11/10, there will be a meeting to discuss the carnival. It would take place on 2/13/09, approx. 3 hours.

Geckler—The goal is the same as last year. The family raising the most money would get the use of an inflatable for their own party.

PTA Funding Requests—There were no requests as of 9/22. The forms are on the school website.

PTA Budget—We will wait until mid year to review the budget & make any possible changes. At that time, we will have a better idea where we are with expenses & overages.

Box Tops—There is currently a promotion with Box Tops, until the end of October, that we would get double-credit for each 30 box tops attached to a special form. These need to be turned in by Oct. 15.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.