

MINUTES

Valentine Hills PTA Meeting

March 21st, 2008

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

In attendance

Kara McCoy, Jennifer Mohlenhoff, Leta McDonald, Jane Kennedy, Teresa Walbon, Sonnie Evans, Nathan Flansburg, Gina Kirstufek, Mary Lawrence, Wendy Brandt, Cori Corgan, MarreJo Sager, Sue Johnson, Jill Huering, Julie Anderson, Corbin Kristufek, De Zhang, and Shawn O'Dougherty.

Thank You Notes

Thank you cards were received from the following: the Flansburg family for the card & gift following the birth of a daughter, staff for the meal during conferences, students for money to fund Biz City, & the school district for money donated to support activities within the district.

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the February meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report

The current bank balance is approximately \$28,667, not including the book fair check for \$3,544.

School Board Representative's Report

Marre Jo Sager, our school board rep, talked about building improvement projects that are planned at Valentine Hills: handwashing basins near the entryway will be replaced, the roof over 1/3 of the building will be replaced, the ramp by the cafeteria will be carpeted for safety, some flooring will be replaced, acoustic tiles will be installed

Old Business

Status reports were given:

Family Arts Festival—Gina Kristufek talked about the various activities that will happen during the FAF, including performances by the band & orchestra.

Bookfair—The bookfair brought in \$3,544 of net income (gross income was \$7,644). Our goal is \$7,500 gross to do well with the bookfair.

Fundraising—Some parents have submitted feedback & ideas for changes in the PTA fundraising. We have already signed our contract with Geckler for next school year. Since Terry Crane will be taking over as the fundraiser chair, from Sue Johnson, it was best to not make a change in companies so soon. It is possible to change fundraising for the following school year, but since the Geckler sale accounts for about half of the PTA budget (approximately \$18,000), it is important that we plan carefully before making any changes in fundraising. It is difficult to raise that much money with smaller-scale fundraising, unless you do multiple successful fundraisers throughout the year.

T-shirt Sales—The t-shirt sale total is \$37.33 profit. The goal is to break even, since this is not intended as a fundraiser.

Principal's Report

Principal Flansburg handed out maps of the proposed, existing, & future planned trails near Valentine Hills, which have been funded in part by the Safe Routes to School grant that the community received. The trail that will run in front of the school will not be completed for approximately 1-2 years. Principal Flansburg also talked about the Peaceful Playground gaming system, which would cost \$2,615 for games & equipment. The website to learn more about this program is: www.peacefulplaygrounds.com. He also told members about vandalization that happened to the school sign. It was easily repaired. Staff changes that will take place this year are 3 retirements, including Lee Porath, Diane Knutilla, & a third teacher who did not want to be named yet. These open positions will be filled by teachers who are "bumped" from other schools. This happens based on seniority.

New Business

Grant Requests—There were no grant requests made at this time.

VP Potential Candidates—We are in need of a VP for the PTA. This person would train in the 1st year, & be the president the 2nd year.

Budget Meeting—The budget meeting will take place at VHS on Monday, 4/7, at 6:00pm. We will discuss next year's potential budget. The 1st budget vote will take place at the April PTA meeting, & the final vote at the May meeting.

5th Grade Celebration—Pat Rhode is in charge of the celebration this year.

Memory Book—Shawn O'Dougherty said things are going well. We have enough pictures, but you can still submit more if you would like. Digital format photos are best. Everything is due to the printer on Monday, 3/31.

Landscaping/Planting Guidelines—The school district requires that plans be submitted for approval before any planting or landscaping changes are made.

Geckler--The catalogs were made available for review & to give input on which specialty catalogs to use.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.