

Valentine Hills PTA Meeting

November 17th, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm

In attendance

Nathan Flansburg, Heather Lohman, Teresa Walbon, Jane Kennedy, Leta McDonald, Kara McCoy, Jen Mohlenhoff, Andrea Carpstein, Liz Willson, Wendy Brandt, Julie Anderson, Maria Hermanson, Cori Corgan, Vanessa Ranallo, Lori Anderson, Mary Ortt, Jen Moberg, Sue Johnson, Deb Fredrickson, Sonnie Evans

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the October meeting were reviewed and approved, with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report

The checkbook balance as of 11/17/08 is \$32,058.26. We are still waiting on the final net income amount for Geckler, which includes some returns to be processed by Geckler. Currently, the net income is around \$15,000 from Geckler sales and another \$3,000 from cash donations.

PTA taxes were filed last week. Suzie Hornbaker did the PTA taxes for free again this year, which she has done for the past several years. "Thank you" to Suzie.

School Board Representative's Report

Marre Jo Sager, our school board rep, was unable to attend the meeting tonight.

Old Business

Status reports were given:

November Book Fair—The school will receive \$1,992.16 from the fundraiser. There was a total of \$6,740.55 in sales.

Geckler Fundraiser—The pig races & limo ride are complete. Our Geckler rep is getting us moonwalks & carnival games to use at our school carnival in Feb.

Staff Allotments—The total amount of allotments has increased (\$680) due to an increase in staff. A letter is going out to staff members re: their allotment for enrichment & field trips.

Principal's Report

- "Thank you" from principal Flansburg to all who volunteer.
- The sing-along on 12/19 has a format change from the past few years. The am K, 2nd, & 4th grades will have their sing-along at 9:45/10am. Then the pm K, K+, 3rd, & 5th grades will have their sing-along at 2pm. Parents/families will sit with their children in the gym.
- Though we are a top school district, we don't offer world languages like many school districts do. A potential change could include implementing a world language in unit studies for 5th grade.
- The school is looking at making some changes in the curriculum. Social studies and science are being revamped. The science standards test is cumulative. Social studies will be changed to keep the flow of what is learned from elementary to middle school. The curriculum change would work to help improve testing results.
- Children who are dismissed from the front of the building need to take the stairs or sidewalk around to get to waiting cars (in the street), rather than go down the hillside.

New Business

Biz City—A first vote was taken at the October meeting to approve a grant request for 5th grade students to attend Biz City. This special activity day takes place each year where the students learn how to run a business. They build businesses, balance checkbooks, pay salaries, & take out loans as part of the educational experience. A second vote was taken and the grant was approved for \$2,000 to help cover the cost of student attendance at Biz City. A grant request was also made to Target, but if would be approved, the amount to be received is unknown at this time.

Carnival—Ten teachers have already signed up to help out at the school carnival; 6 have volunteered to have pies thrown at them. The first carnival meeting was 11/10. The planning has started & by the end of the year coordinators will have a letter sent out requesting donations. The carnival will take place on 2/13/09. Shifts will be 45 minutes, & it is hoped that some girl scouts, boy scouts, or other groups might volunteer as a group to cover some of the areas. The PTA is not viewing the carnival as a fundraiser, though there will probably be a profit. Part of the plan for the carnival is to have a simple art project & jumpers/moonwalks that are all free of charge, in order to keep the carnival affordable for all families. Watch the View for updates.

Grant Request—

A request was made for \$299 by school specialists to buy prizes related to the Responsive Classroom program. The grant was approved.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm.