

D.A. Grout Elementary School PTA  
Minutes for General Meeting  
September 23, 2010

**Call to Order** – President Sara Price called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm.

**Introductions** – Attendees and officers introduced themselves and identified their children presently at Grout. Quorum was established.

**Welcome and Mission Statement** – Daniel A. Grout PTA serves the purpose of being: a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, a strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child, a way of role modeling for your children and giving back to your community. The focus is on the kids and all about the kids.

**Approval of Standing Rules & Bylaws** – Standing Rules were read by Sara; Sara moved to accept the Standing Rules and Bylaws. The motion was seconded and carried.

Other rules put forth by our PTA: Team Work, Respect Each Other, and Deliver on your Obligations, No Meetings Outside of Meetings, Don't Assume, and No Cliques.

**Financial Report** – Treasurer Sherilyn Brown reported that at present there is approximately \$4800 in the PTA bank account.

Two members are needed for an Annual Audit of the Books for last year. Please contact Sherilyn for more information.

Approval of Budget for this year is needed at October meeting. Need to look at the needs of the teachers (teachers' wish list) and other budget issues.

E-script program needs to collect Safeway receipts from as many families as possible for redemption. They can be placed in the PTA box in the office.

More possible staff involvement in the Script Program at conference time was discussed.

Script is gift cards purchased from the school with a percentage of money being donated to the school by the participating companies.

**Principal's Report** – Principal Susan McElroy was ill and Teacher Caroline Neal read a prepared letter from Susan. Grout currently has 365 students and is a Title 1 school. Despite budget cuts we have been able to maintain very special programs; music, PE, library and computer lab. We have been able to continue Playworks and our drama program. We were able to keep our counseling staff as well as host interns and student teachers. We have a strong partnership with SUN/Community Schools, City of Portland, Reed College Biology and Art. We have a strong volunteer base for our SMART program Thanks to all the volunteers and officers for stepping forward and for all of parents who are attending this meeting to get us off to a good start.

**Garden Committee** – Jill Bailey announced that a meeting is set for the week of September 26<sup>th</sup>, either Tuesday or Wednesday evening. The entire back field is the next big project. Email will be sent to anyone interested.

**Web Page for Grout PTA** – Sara introduced Becky Groebner, who is designing and administrating [www.GroutPTA.com](http://www.GroutPTA.com), a website for information about DA Grout Elementary School. There is a Facebook page as well.

**T-shirts** – PTA would like to provide t-shirts or sweatshirts for every child this year. We are looking for 100% sponsorship of the t-shirts. Eric Mims talked with Angel Vercruysse about possible silk screening opportunities.

**Teacher Requests** – Gym equipment is needed. Donations of soft ring toss, rainbow scoop and ball set, beanbags, playground balls, jump ropes, and footballs were requested. Attendees suggested soliciting Fred Meyer for donations. Forms are needed for all donations and need to be given to the Treasurer. Attendees suggested working with businesses in the neighborhood for future donations.

Music teacher, Jeffrey Gilpin sent a request through Susan for Rhythm Flashcards, Recorders, and Composers Video set. Total dollar amount of \$235. Sara moved to approve request. Motion was seconded and passed.

**Possible Fundraisers** – Pastini's Restaurant Pasta-thon: Two day period includes lunch and dinner. \$20 of every \$100 donated to Grout. Date is needed, possibility of November discussed. Pizzacato Fundraiser and Laughing Planet Fundraiser also in the works.

Odd Fellows Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser set in sometime in November at the school.

No Sally Foster this year. Cookie Dough Sales needs a few volunteers to distribute dough (about 2 hours). Picture Day volunteers were set with Janine and Sherilee able to work the whole day. Angel, Renee, Micaela and Kevin would split time, if necessary.

Candy bars and Pepperoni Sticks as a possible fundraiser was discussed and will be looked into but in the past, it was expense and a lot of product was lost.

**Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities** – Two organizers for the fundraisers are still needed. A few volunteers are still needed for the Halloween Party on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Scholastic Book Fair: Set up on November 17<sup>th</sup>, shifts of 2 hours during the conference times and take down. Volunteers need to talk to Betsy Miller.

**Announcements** – If there is something you would like to address at the next meeting, motion slip must be in by Oct 12<sup>th</sup>. PTA meeting in October will be on TUESDAY, October 19<sup>th</sup>.

PTA Meetings for the 2010-2011 school year will be in the evenings from 6:30-7:30 pm on the following dates.

Tuesday, October 19th, 2010

Thursday, November 18th, 2010

Thursday, January 20th, 2011: Childcare Provided

Thursday, February 17th, 2011

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Thursday, April 21, 2011

Thursday, May 19, 2011

**Adjournment – at 7:31pm**