

D.A. Grout Elementary School PTA  
Minutes for General Meeting  
February 17, 2011

**Call to Order** – President Sara Price called the meeting to order at 6:38pm.

**Introductions** – Attendees and officers introduced themselves and said what they were doing at the meeting. Quorum was established.

**Welcome and Mission Statement** – Read by Sara. *Goals for the evening:* Have Fun. Be proud for being here and showing how much you value education and how to give back to the community. Feel free to speak up. Understand children succeed when families, schools, and communities work together to make a difference for the education, health, and welfare of children and youth. *Key components of our Team:* Collaboration. Respect each other. Be Accountable. Meetings stay here. Don't assume. Focus stays on our Children. Commitment. We are dedicated to promoting children's health, well being, and educational success through strong parent, family and community involvement. *Building Self-Esteem:* One of the most important gifts a parent can their child is to help them develop self-esteem. Children need to develop the following characteristics: A sense of belonging. A sense of personal competence and pride. A sense of trust. More information on self-esteem is available at [HealthyChildren.org](http://HealthyChildren.org).

**Approval of Minutes** – Sara presented the minutes from the general meeting held on January 20, 2011. The minutes were approved as written by the membership.

**Principal's Report** – Principal Susan McElroy asked that families come to the Kindergarten Round Up and visit the classrooms and participate in the writing exercises available in the rooms.

**Financial Report** – The budget was presented for people to peruse. Attachment #1 in archive minutes.

**Garden Committee** – Jill Bailey discussed having a meeting on the first Wednesday of every month at 5:30pm. Next meeting will be on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30pm. Sign up for email notifications, if you have not already. There will be a work party on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> from 9-5. There will be lots of things to do. Bring shovels, paintbrushes, rollers, and drop cloths. She will send out information through email later on. The Plant Sale/Rummage Sale is coming up and if you are interested in helping please think about starting some plants or dividing up plants in your garden for donation to the sale. There is money available in the budget for the Garden. Sarah Krick asked about student use of the garden. The garden is used by the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in class. There are also rich opportunities for learning as well as more participation with the Sun School. A nature adventure class will be offered in the Spring. Right now adult supervision is needed for playing access. There is no playing in the garden at recess because the garden is still under construction.

**Membership Committee** – Sarah Krick needed 3 parents to give tours to incoming kindergarten families. She also needs donations of raffle items for the Carnival. They can be left in the office for pick-up. Please contact her for more information.

**Kindergarten Round Up (February 24<sup>th</sup>)** – Food will need to be picked up from the following restaurants: HoHo Chinese Restaurant, Super Torta, Ya Hala Lebanese Restaurant, and Little Caesars. People will need to pay for the food and be reimbursed by the PTA. Total cost will be about \$209. Each dish at the dinner will be \$1. A menu will be produced before hand to publish in the Thursday announcements. Liz McPhee asked if the warmers in the kitchen could be used for keeping the food warm. Susan said that would be allowed. Servicers will be needed. Students should wear their T-Shirts. Sara will pick up water, juice boxes, and soda at Costco for the event.

**Teacher Mary Fundraiser/ Spaghetti Feed (March 31<sup>st</sup>)** – The talent night has been changed to a fundraiser for Teacher Mary Boyce. All money from the event will go to Teacher Mary and her family. Dot's Cafe will possibly supply the food. Suggested price per plate was \$3. Possible activities would be a coin toss and a live local band. Servicers will be needed.

**Upcoming Activities** – \*April Run for the Arts – Will be April 5<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed to help set up oranges/juice and help with the classes with tallying the run.

\*April 29<sup>th</sup> Carnival – Moon Pies was suggested as a dessert option. A Cake Walk coordinator is needed. Several people suggested selling separate tickets for the cake walk. Liz volunteered to head up the cake walk. Anyone with any ideas for raffle baskets or items to add to baskets should get in touch with Sheila or Sarah.

\*May – Teacher Appreciation Week. May 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed for various events planned for the teachers. A dinner may be a possibility. Another possible activity would be Chair Massage Sessions with sign-up for time slots on Wednesday by Sheila Custer and Jill Bailey. Planning for food/ coffee should include around 50 people. Plan on having your children write notes of appreciation to their teachers.

\*Rummage Sale/Plant Sale/ Bake Sale is Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Announcements** – If there is something you would like to address at the next meeting, motion slips must be in by Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>.

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

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Thursday, April 21, 2011

Thursday, May 19, 2011

**Adjournment** – at 7:30pm