

D.A. Grout Elementary School PTA
Minutes for General Meeting
May 12, 2011

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

Introductions – Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and identify what school event was their favorite this year. Quorum was established.

President's Report and Mission Statement – Sara announced the election of board members for next year would take place at the end of the meeting. Sara then went over the goals that we met this year. *Goals for the evening:* Have Fun. 46 members (our goal was 25). Harvest festival and Pancake Breakfast were successful. Students and Faculty received a Grout T-shirt. Curriculum Night, Run for the Arts and the Space Carnival were successful. Teacher Appreciation Week was successful. The Rummage Sale and Teacher Mary Night will be successful. The monthly dine-out nights did well. All the PTA meetings had at least 5 voting members to meet Quorum. She thanked everyone for their involvement and making the year a success. Sara then went over her *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. Sara thanked Terri Burke for a very successful and well organized Space Carnival and then issued the same personal challenge for the parents to step out of their comfort zone and do something you know you can do but maybe need a little courage.

Approval of Minutes – Sara presented the minutes from the general meeting held on April 21, 2011. The minutes were approved as written by the members.

Principal's Report – Susan McElroy stated that the school budget will affect staffing for next year. It is also dependent on the passage of the ballot measures in the election on May 17, 2011. If the ballot measures pass, the school will lose one position and if they don't pass, it will be four or five positions. We will also lose the position of principal's secretary, currently held by Dusty Parker. But Nancy Riggs, the school secretary, is retiring this year, so Dusty will be moving to that position instead. The lost teacher position will be announced after the teacher has told the kids about it. The Garden Committee received an almost \$10,000 grant thanks to the hard work of Johanna Colgrove, Kaia Sand and Jill Bailey. The school also received a grant from Sports Authority of \$10,000 for Playworks and a \$25,000 grant from Portland Schools Foundation.

Financial Report – Angel Vercruysse presented the budget. Attachment #1 in archive minutes. Ending balance is good and the Rummage Sale is still coming up and will add to that balance.

Motion for 5% contribution to support the upcoming Fifth Graders' Trip to Camp

Kiwanilong – Motion was approved by members is October and Thayna Baker discussed the money that has been raised for next year's students. There will also be the Bake Sale on Saturday. \$1927.00 was raised and 5% of that is \$96.00. The check memo from the PTA should

specify that this is money for 2012 campers. Families will need to contribute money for their student for next year but it won't be as much with the money raised. The fourth graders also received a grant for Camp Kiwanilong from Wentworth's.

Upcoming Activities –

*Rummage Sale/Plant Sale/ Bake Sale is this weekend – The POD is pretty full. Ted Cameron will start setting up at 1:00pm by moving items from the POD to the cafeteria. Items will be organized by like items and priced as an area. Furniture will be priced as marked. Ted will be unavailable on Saturday until after 2:00pm, so there is need for volunteers to man the 11:00am shift. Volunteers are also needed to clean up. The school usually makes between \$750- 900 from the sales.

*Teacher Mary Benefit and Toy Trains Concert is May 19th – The goal is to sell 400 tickets because that is how much pasta we had donated by Barilla. We need some more donations of meatless red sauce by Monday at the latest. Sara will be selling tickets after school and at the sale. Silent auction items need to be given to Dusty in the office. Dusty mentioned to Thayna yesterday morning that people with skills could donate their skills and time as an item and Dusty will write up a description for the auction. Over \$300 in tickets have been sold already. Volunteer time slots are still open.

Announcements –

A reader board family is needed for next year. Thayna volunteered to change the messages on the reader board.

The glass art project will continue towards completion next year.

The music program will not be available next year and it was suggested by Ted that he would possibly look into a residency artist program this summer to replace it; maybe fund the program like the drama program.

Election of New Board Members – A description of the various positions was provided. Sara, Angel, Matthew Miller and Benjamina Balmer were congratulated on the good job of growing the PTA this year. Sara was praised for all of her hard work and activities and it was suggested that she continue as president. She declined for family matters.

Melanie Symms was nominated for the Treasurer position and was voted in.

Betsy Miller was nominated for the Secretary position and was voted in.

No one was prepared to be the President and it was suggested that the position could be split into President and Co-President and the job could be shared. It was also suggested that the job could be shared three-ways with a vice president taking on the responsibility as well. An email will be sent out to the Google Group about the need for parents to step into the role next year. Susan reminded members that the position can be as big or as little as you want it to be. Please let Sara or Benjamina know if you want more information about the position.

Adjournment – at 7:16pm