

D.A. Grout Elementary School PTA
Minutes for General Meeting November 3, 2011

Call to Order – President Johanna Colgrove called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

Approval of Minutes – Minutes from the October meeting were approved.

Principals Report – Susan noted that the Creston / Kenilworth Neighborhood Association would like residents to vote on the design of their new banners featuring the Community Music Center image. She also noted the upcoming Fun Night 11/29 with the Chinese Acrobats.

President – Johanna showed the attendees a Thank You for treats from Miss Kirk.

Budget / Fundraising

Melanie Symms, Treasurer, presented the budget review.

- Budget for Harvest Festival was \$50. We made \$89.
- She mentioned the Scrip program. It's a good program, and an easy way to support our schools.
- Audit is done.
- Taxes are almost filed.

Teacher Wish Lists

- Johanna asked Susan the best way to manage Teacher Wish Lists. We would like to consolidate everything together on one list. Johanna then asked about Ms. Kirk's suggestion. Betsy Miller described Ms. Kirk's idea of a Wish List board that operates like the Christmas Giving Trees. We could do a board with an apple tree and each apple has a wish list item on it.

Collette Livemore from Loaves and Fishes:

- Meals on Wheels of Brooklyn serves residents living in the bordered area from the Willamette to 72nd, between Powell and Holgate. There are about 140 home bound Seniors in the area. Loaves and Fishes is reaching out to neighbors in those areas to see if they know anyone who is home bound in the area. There are no economics involved. The only requirement is that they are 60 and over. Homebound means that they are just out of the hospital, unable to drive on their own, they live by themselves, they could be in their 80's or 90's. Drivers will go to their home to deliver their food. If no one answers, Loaves and Fishes will call the home to make sure they're OK. If no one answers, they will call the family. This is not just a meal program, they are also taking care of the Seniors in the area. "No Senior will go hungry or experience social isolation". They also have their center at Sacred Heart Villa, where 20- 60 Seniors come in every day to have a meal, socialize and play games.

Free Geek

- Fifteen students work on disassembling computers in the program. At the end of the year they each receive a new computer for Free. There is a limited supply of whole systems, and the program is taking donations. Visit them at 10th and Mill by Burgerville to drop off your donation. The students will drill through hard drives to protect your information. For more information, email m.sean.kelly@gmail.com.
- The All Stars program needs Volunteers in the Motor Lab each week on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8am. We also need Lunch and Recess Volunteers.

Fuel up for Fitness

- Sarah Krick gave an update about the \$4000 grant available that we can win for gym equipment. To be considered for this grant we will be required to complete a school wide health survey, set up a reward system, set and achieve benchmarks in fitness, conduct assemblies to educate students. After we've met all of those requirements we will then be considered for the grant. Members voted that this program is not viable for Grout.

Camp Kiwanilong

- Thayna Baker noted that we need a Parent of a fourth grader to take over the fundraising and coordination of next years Camp Kiwanilong trip. Thayna has been doing it for a year. The cost of the camp is about \$90 per child. Bake sales and the Holiday Bazaar will help support the camp. Sherilyn Brown mentioned that Mr. Fisher sent his students home with an empty quarter roll, and the kids should save quarters and fill the roll.

Book Fair

- Thayna Baker noted that the Scholastic Book Fair will be online from November 13 – 27th. Orders will be delivered to the classroom, and shipping is free. Not sure when they will be delivered, but they will come to the classrooms. There are still cashier shifts that need to be filled during the sale. If Grandparents take shifts we will receive a higher portion % from Scholastic. 100% of the money raised goes to the librarian for reference books.

Pasta-Thon

- Lana Barry reminded members that diners must mention that they are eating for Grout to earn the \$20 for every \$100 from Pastini. We can do two events a year.

Holiday Bazaar

- Sarah asked about the craft table and presented her idea of making pine cone ornaments.
- Thayna asked that people wrap their treats to sell at the bake sale.
- A question was posed about Teachers making ornaments with their students, but Teacher Dayle noted that there isn't time. Sheila and Betsy noted that it would be a good idea for parents to have their own craft day with their kids or a group of kids.

Glass Art Project

- Susan McElroy noted that \$1000 is needed to finish the project. Johanna asked when we will need the funds and noted that the Book Fair and Scrip program funds might help. Melanie Symms noted that we have the money now, and members approved allocating \$1000 to the project.

Mosaic Tile Project

- Teresa Tamiyasu and Kaia Sand applied for a grant with SE Uplift to get the multicultural tile project finished along the stairwell wall. We are asking for \$4000. As part of the grant, they will need \$100 from the PTA. All grades will work on the tiles. The members approved a motion to allocate \$100 to the project.

Lice Awareness

- Thayna Baker proposed a program to educate Parents on Lice control. It's a taboo topic, but we need to have some preemptive education. Perhaps the Nurse has flyers to send home? She used personal examples and noted that every school, every age, every class has this problem. Teacher Dayle noted that Teachers know the signs of lice, and putting coats in back packs is one way to help. Lana Barry noted that kids need to be kept at home when they have lice. Benjamina and Thayna volunteered to come to the school for a head check day. It was also noted that we could post tips on the PTA website and possibly send a flyer home with the same tips.

New Business

- Sara Price mentioned that we will be decorating the Odd Fellows to Thank them for the pancake breakfast. Date and time will be announced later.
- Johanna and Sarah Krick thanked everyone for pulling together to make the Harvest Festival a success.
- Sara Price reminded everyone that they can order Grout sweatshirts.
- Melanie let everyone know that Trackers is having a free week next week to introduce their program to Parents. They pick up at 2:15pm.
- Teacher Dayle thanked the PTA for all we do.

PSU Capstone

The students from the PSU Marketing Departments Capstone program will be presenting a video on Grout for their final presentation on December 1 from 10am – 12pm. This video will be sent to media, realtors, and others asking for support and for Grout, as well as educating them on how great our school is. Samantha and Angela are also using it for part of the water garden grant. Sheila Custer volunteered to help give them information on the water garden – from design to implementation. They are also going to be doing some Community outreach and it was noted that they should use the Thursday Announcements to poll Parents.

Next Meeting – Thursday January 5, 6:30 pm. Agenda: Initial discussion about 2012-13 PTA board.

Meeting Dates (always 6:30 to 7:30pm): February 2nd, March 1st, April 5th, May 3rd, June 7th.