

D.A. Grout Elementary School PTA
Minutes for General Business Meeting
January 5, 2012

- 1) **Call to Order** - President Johanna Colgrove called the meeting to order at 6:35.
- 2) **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes from the November meeting were approved.
- 3) **Principal Report, Susan McElroy** – Our \$6000 grant for the garden project has been approved.
- 4) **Budget / Fundraising**
 - a) Financial Report—Melanie Symms
 - b) School Wishlist Update
 - 1) The Wish List items were distributed in December. They included art supplies, hand sanitizer, glue, etc. We will assess what we have at the next meeting, and what is needed to fulfill more wishes. We may be able to get items at a reduced rate if we buy in bulk.
 - c) Camp Kiwanilong Update – Thayna Baker
 - 1) Thayna shared that a good friend of hers with a child at Llewelyn started the Monster March in Sellwood years back, and it's now a huge thing. The school sold Tshirts this past year, and created a "Monster March Foundation". The first check written by the foundation was a \$150 donation to Camp Kiwanilong.
 - 2) Johanna mentioned that money such as that and the proceeds from the Holiday Bazaar gives us a boost. We will hold that money in our account to help pay bills until it is needed.
 - d) Bake Sales – Johanna
 - 1) Johanna noted that bake sales are an easy source of revenue. They've been done at two Theater Nights, and raised \$100. She wants to keep them going, and the Members agreed. We will start selling them at the Girls Basketball games on Wednesday Nights. We need a volunteer to help coordinate. The games have a good attendance. Possible items to sell include water, popcorn, Redvines, etc. The Volunteer would only have to organize a few in January.
- 5) **Volunteer Coordinator – Lori Knowles**
 - a) Lori Knowles will be the Volunteer Coordinator for the rest of the school year. Johanna directed members to Lori if they are coordinating an event. Please provide your needs – how many volunteers you need, job descriptions, and the length of time they will be needed.
- 6) **Upcoming Events**
 - a) PTA Clothing Closet Thursday, January 19, 2012 at 9:30am
 - 1) Betsy Miller will get clarification on how many volunteers are needed at the closet and the hours. Sheila Custer volunteered. Sheila also mentioned that Moms come to the closet without their children. She mentioned that it's fun to be a "personal shopper" for the kids
 - b) Kindergarten Round Up February 16, 2012
 - 1) Johanna asked Susan what's planned for the Kindergarten Round Up. Susan said that the PTA could organize the food and greeting Parents and Families. Sarah Krick told the group that what usually happens is the PTA greets and gets acquainted with the Parents. Johanna, Sheila and Thayna agreed to volunteer as greeters. Sarah is going to try and make t-shirts. Thayna suggested wearing Grout T-shirts or sweatshirts. She mentioned that she loves this event because it's an opportunity to meet other parents. Johanna asked Tom Grohnke and other families with young children what they would like to see at the round up. A visiting parent of incoming twins will bring her kids so that they can meet all of the Kindergarten Teachers. Benamina Balmer mentioned that we will also need volunteers to provide and serve food. Johanna asked for a volunteer to get food for the event. Sheila mentioned that last year she brought Noho's. Sara Price suggested that we just do hot dogs for the event, so she'll get the items from Costco. Thayna mentioned that one of the Parents works at Papa Murphy's and has offered to provide a discount on pizzas in the past. Sarah Krick will follow up with the parent. We will still need concessions workers.

- c) Next Family Art Night
 - 1) Susan McElroy noted that we do not have funds for an art night. Thayna Baker asked if there's a plan for the Reed Run money. Susan as most of that money is going towards the drama program, but there's no event in March, so she will call Leigh to see if she's available for an art night.
- d) Carnival Friday April 27, 2012
 - 1) Johanna mentioned that we have discussed previously that Ted will be retiring from the coordination of the Rummage Sale, and we don't have another person to take on that job. The concensus is that the rummage sale go away to be replaced with a combined Carnival / International Festival. Sara Price and Melanie Symms will take on the coordination of the Carnival. They will work on a theme. Johanna mentioned that one of the things that came out of the Holiday Bazaar was to have some kind of International Night. Sara and Melanie will brainstorm to see what they can put together. Johanna mentioned that Susan has come contacts that might be able to help them. Susan suggested that we have the Carnival on **Thursday April 12th**, because that Friday is a Teacher Planning Day. That way we wouldn't have to pay for a custodian. It was restated by Johanna that the Carnival will now be on Thursday April 12th, and have an international theme.

7) New Business

- a) Holiday Bazaar Recap Meeting Thursday January 19th Since this was a new event for us, and a successful event, we're going to continue? So I would like to have a recap meeting where we take what we learned this year and improve upon it. Agenda:
 - 1. 2011 Recap
 - 2. 2012 Processes
 - a. Date
 - b. Artist Recruitment
 - c. Operations
 - d. Marketing
 - e. Grout Family Support
 - f. Event Coordinators – Community Outreach, Recruitment, School Community Outreach, Budget, Games, Food, Raffles, Artist Support, Decorations, Operations.
- b) Hosford Foundation - Thayna Baker
 - 1) Thayna has information about the Hosford Foundation. Any money that is given to the foundation now will benefit our kids that are in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade.
- c) PPS Facilities Meeting
 - 1) Johanna received an email in December stating that PPS wants to do meetings in the community about school facilities. She would like to have it after the next PTA meeting. She does not want to spend an entire meeting on their presentation. Members agreed.
- d) Planning for next year; Leadership
 - 1) Johanna asked that everyone start thinking about who they would like to have as officers next year. Whether you would like to serve or if you have someone in mind who you'd like to nominate.
- e) Lunch time - Thayna Baker
 - 1) Thayna has heard concerns from parents that children don't have enough time to eat at lunch. Susan mentioned that there is a definite 20 minutes to eat. But kids do not have to go outside. They can opt to stay and finish their lunch before they leave. Brian Baker commented that he thinks it's mainly the hot lunch line. Susan stated that there have been many discussions about how to handle lunch. There are a lot of logistical issues with the number of kids that need to eat. Brian asked if kids know that they can stay and finish. Susan said they'll be reminded.
 - 2) Johanna received a phone call from Steph Pierson from the Multnomah County Food Board offering nutritional education to Parents. If you are interested, or have questions, contact Johanna

- 3) Brian asked if we need to send another round of Thank You's to Safeway. Benjamina will find out the requirements and follow up with everyone. She knows that for Escrip we are required to send a Thank you.
- 4) Thayna mentioned that the worm bin needs to be worked, and a compost load needs to be removed. Tom Grohnke offered to take the compost and bring back mushroom compost.

Next Meeting – Thursday February 2, 6:30 pm

Adjournment President Johanna Colgrove adjourned meeting at 7:20pm.

Meeting Dates (always 6:30 to 7:30pm):

Thursday February 2nd

Thursday March 1st

Thursday April 5th

Thursday May 3rd

Thursday June 7th