

Herkimer Elementary School Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
Minutes
Monday, September 20, 2010

PTA Officers present: Brian Crandall, President; Pat Kelly, Vice President; Cheryl Jory, Secretary and Michele Gilbert, Treasurer.

Old Business

- I. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by President Brian Crandall at 7:03 p.m.
- II. Secretary's Report: One change to June 2010 minutes: Mike Quirk from Cherrydale will be providing incentive gifts of \$100 and two (2) \$50 prizes for our Yankee Candle fundraiser. Motion was made to accept the minutes by Brian and seconded by Kathy Carney.
- III. Treasurer's Report: Michele reported that PTA made \$399 on ice cream from Open House, \$162 on Spirit Wear and received \$132 from Target. Fifty (50) members signed up for PTA at Open House on September 14, 2010. Treasurer's Report was reviewed by those in attendance and accepted with a motion from Kristin Stallman and Angela Coonradt.
- IV. Principal's Report: Mrs. Carney reported that opening day at school was smooth at school. We have three (3) new teachers: Amy Burgdoff in Kindergarten, Erika Hawes in 6th grade and Sarah Ward. Mrs. Ward made the transition from Remedial to Kindergarten and is currently on maternity leave. Barb Macri is fulfilling her maternity leave at this time. Open House was well attended and she thanked all that helped make the night a success. Mrs. Tomaso stated that a photo was sent to The Evening Telegram regarding Stewart's donating ice cream for Open House but she has to resend due to technical difficulties. Mike Quirk was at Open House to introduce the fundraiser and Kristin Stallman is in charge of this event. Mrs. Stallman encouraged families to fill out order forms as completely as possible for ease in processing orders. The due date has been changed from October 11th (Columbus Day) to October 8th.

New Business

- V. November meeting: Brian changed the date from November 1st to November 8th so we can help deliver Yankee Candle orders to be ready for Parent Teacher Conferences.
- VI. School Pictures: Set for September 22nd and 23rd this year. Angela Coonradt and Marissa Crandall will be at school to help make this a smooth procedure.
- VII. School website: Brian has been updating and we now have a Facebook page for event updates. Marissa and Michele are maintaining this.

- VIII. Scholarship: A motion was made by Cheryl and Mike Jory via e-mail to make a \$1,000 donation to HES in memory of Melissa Lasowski and a \$500 donation to Mohawk School for a scholarship. Mrs. Lasowski, a First Grade teacher at HES, died of breast cancer on September 15th and she requested any donations in her memory go to HES for needy children. A motion was made by Pat Kelly and seconded by Marissa Crandall. It was also discussed to do something at school in her memory as well as other deceased staff. Mrs. Carney explained that the school would be setting up the fund in accordance with the rules and regulations governing such funds. She also stated that there are statues available that are appropriate for elementary schools that could be an option in the future as a memorial tribute. Donations can still be made to the school in memory of Mrs. Lasowski.
- IX. Fundraising goal: It was agreed that new fundraising initiatives would go toward updating the small playground new the football stadium.
- X. Entry rug: Brian is looking into purchasing a rug for the new entryway of the school for winter. He will update as information becomes available.
- XI. Pre-K: Brian stated that he was approached by Pre-K staff about purchasing bulletin boards to display student work. Mrs. Carney said that the school could take of this issue.
- XII. Internet Safety: Speaker from NYS Attorney General's Office is not available in October but is in November. It was discussed to have her come before Christmas before parent's purchase electronics for gifts. Bailey's Karate may put on a safety program for children while parents listen to Internet Safety program.
- XIII. Great Pumpkin: Make annual visit to HES on Friday October 29th. Brian will contact Granny's Kitchen for donations. Angela stated that Dunkin Donuts is willing to again donate 50 boxes of Munchkins if we purchase the same.
- XIV. Scholastic Book Fair: Mike Jory and Julie Basel to chair. Dates are set for November 4th through 12th. Will use scanner this year to make checking out smoother for students. A volunteer sheet was passed around to work at the book fair. Cheryl will pass along to Julie for contact.
- XV. Ride for Missing Children: A thank you letter was received and passed around the meeting.
- XVI. National PTA: Themes were discussed. Regional PTA representative will make a visit to the November meeting.
- XVII. Spirit Wear: Maria Gallagher has made contact with same supplier from last year. Prices about \$.15 higher due to his cost increases. Can get window cling-ons this year. She will look into selling reusable grocery bags to sell. The consensus was that this was a successful fundraiser last year.
- XVIII. Dufflebag Theater: Scheduled for December 3, 2010 at HES. They will have two (2) performances at school since the entire school cannot fit in the cafetorium at once. Discussed having an evening performance but something different than the students would have seen during the day. It was felt this would encourage attendance. Would open performance up to

others schools for the evening performance. The evening performance would be held at the high school as there is more seating in the auditorium.

- XIX. Chicken BBQ: Butch Parese was present to discuss the chicken BBQ for Parent Teacher Conferences on November 10th. He said that he would be willing to cook at the school and price so as to maximize our profit. He suggested we look into donations first and then purchasing items. He will work up prices and have it ready for the next meeting. Possible donations: Hannaford and Heidelberg bakery. Brooks charges \$10.50 and last year we charged \$8 per dinner.
- XX. Hannaford receipts: Angela said that we are enrolled in this fund raising program through Hannaford. Mrs. Carney said that information is in the office and will be distributed so it can be sent home with students.
- XXI. Target Field Trips: Michele has started the application process for Target Field Trip grants. Discussed some field trips at school that tie in with our curriculum she could use for submission.
- XXII. Field Trips: Mrs. Tomaso said that this year each grade will have two (2) field trips. It used to be three but due to financial constraints, this had to be cut back. It was asked if PTA could donate more to providing field trips and there is already \$1,000 ear marked for this. Mrs. Tomaso said that many times a field trip idea will surface and the feasibility discussed (cost, transportation). It was agreed that providing students with outside experiences is important but must be within reason as well as budgetary constraints.

Next meeting: Tuesday October 5th at 7 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Michele Gilbert and seconded by Angela Coonradt at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Jory
PTA Secretary