



McDole Elementary PTO

Meeting Minutes 3/16/10

Present: Robyn Lycan, Jen Stoll, Marguerite Ledone, Martne McCoy, Amy Talbott, Brenda Gonzales, Jodi Turek, Jina Cieszkiewicz, Lisa Eaves, Kim Wicyk, , Ann Marie, Jezioro, Jill Konrad, Deanna Robin, Laura Somerlot, Debbie Taylor, Ross Taylor, Ryan Delahaney, Kris Luedtke, Maureen Kuntz, Heidi Kintz, Kayla Gromm, Julie Walker, Jenelle Mance.

Secretary report: The February minutes were corrected to state Jodi Turek won the parent raffle and the minutes were approved as amended.

Treasurer's report: Kathy Zoppa was unable to attend the meeting so Jen Stoll reviewed all income and expenses; highlighting that the last Wendy's night made \$413.25, and that (per Kathy) the budget is on track and some grades have not yet utilized their grade-level funds for this school year.

Committee reports:

Fundraising:

- Kris Luedtke announced plans to begin the Sport Cup Fundraiser. Cup requests will go out to students before Spring Break, and order forms will be distributed after Spring Break.
- The Fall Fun Run concept was reviewed. The Fun Run is scheduled for 10/15/10 with a kick-off assembly scheduled for 9/22/10. Motion passed to pay \$500 for the Fun Run deposit.
- The PTO is sponsoring a St. Patrick's Day corned beef meal on 3/17/2010 which will yield 10% profit to the McDole PTO.

Family Fun Night: Family Fun Night is scheduled for 3/19/10 and will have an "Olympics" theme. This event is free to all students and families. Marguerite announced that the PTO is looking for parent and teacher volunteers for this event.

New Business:

Motion passed to pay no more than \$200 to the second grade classes to fund an in-school presentation on the life cycle of plants thru the St. Charles Park District. This event is scheduled for 4/19/10.

Combined PTO/PTN Meetings: Marguerite announced that PTO/PTN representatives from all of the Kaneland elementary schools have begun meeting to coordinate efforts.

Budget Cuts/Loredo Taft Outdoor Education Program: Marguerite announced that the district's 1st round of budget cuts involved elimination of the Loredo Taft outdoor education program. An outdoor education program will remain in the district's curriculum and 5th grade teachers throughout the district will be meeting in April to collectively determine where and how the outdoor education program will take place without the use of Loredo Taft. At this time, PTO/PTN's throughout the district are discussing the feasibility of the PTO/PTN's across the district paying for part or all of the monies for Loredo Taft, which is estimated to be approximately \$50,000 or \$10,000 per school/\$160.00 per student. The PTO board is concerned that the bulk of the PTO budget (which is dependent on the success of the Fall Fun Run) would be utilized to pay for one event which benefits only one grade level/one group of students. A number of questions were raised about the feasibility of this event, and Mrs. McCoy will be talking to district representatives to try to answer the following questions: 1) Actual cost of Taft to both the district and to the individual school, 2) Do all of the elementary school's have to have the same outdoor education experience or can one or more schools opt out of funding Taft, 3) Do teachers/administrators/Dr. Mumm want the PTO/PTN's to try to keep Loredo Taft 4) Could Loredo Taft be dealt with as a field trip (enhancement of the current curriculum) where individual schools opt to complete a one+ day Loredo Taft experience, 5) Would the school district support the individual PTO/PTN's raising money to fund Taft? It was suggested that students be allowed to fundraise to pay for Taft and a fund-matching program be put in place from the PTO. A decision about funding Taft was deferred at this time to allow for further collection of information. Parents present at the meeting expressed interest in having a special meeting regarding Taft once clarification is received from the district.

Mrs. Schumacher's class won the extra recess in honor of the most parent attendees at this month's meeting.

Jodi Turek won the parent gift card.

Next month's PTO meeting will be held on Tuesday, 4/20/10 @ 7 PM at the Sugar Grove Community Center-kids are welcome.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.