

## **PFA MEETING – September 9, 2011**

### **Welcome – Maggie Pople, President**

- Meeting began at 9:25 am
- Thank you to all the committees and chairs

### **President Report – Maggie Pople**

- Calendar Review
  - Curriculum Nights (Grade 5 on 9/12, Grade 1 and 2 on 9/13, Grade 3 and 4 on 9/14)
  - UBO Pep Rally (9/16) – Black and Gold Day
  - Room Parent Meeting (9/23)
  - Camp Kon O Kwee for 5<sup>th</sup> graders (9/26-28)
  - Superintendent Meeting (9/13, 9:15 am) – may discuss redistricting but not sure. Next feasibility report for redistricting to be conducted in Dec/Jan.

### **Executive Board Reports**

- **Treasurer Report** - Heidi Coltin, Treasurer
- Budget Review:
  - *Amount Spent to Date:*
    - \$2,000 PSC Inventory to generate sales
    - \$45 Birthday Book Club inventory
    - \$200 Classroom Allotment (\$50 per teacher)
    - \$1353 BTS Night (pizza sales will offset this expense, ice cream and Eat and Park cookies)
    - \$600 Camp KOK activities that are subsidized by PFA
    - \$153 Liability Insurance
    - \$377 Staff Appreciation (first event)
    - \$370 Welcome Committee Luncheons
  - *Income:* \$5400 to date from membership dues
- **VP, Membership** – Christine Griffin
  - Welcome and encouraged parents to get involved in the PFA and committees
  - Directory – raised \$1000 in advertising TY for the back of the directory
  - Directory not ready – waiting for district data on students
  - Membership – 515 families total. Still waiting to hear from 100 families about joining the PFA

- Games Drive – to be conducted again around the holidays (Nov/Dec)
- **VP, Volunteers** – Laura Lioy
  - Committee Chairs and volunteers are due back by today. Listings will be available by next Friday
  - PFA email will be used to find specific volunteers as needs arise

### **Current Committee Reports**

- **Recycling Report** – Jude Cleary, Environmental Committee
  - Handed out Recycling Flyer which discusses MES Recycling/Fundraising Programs. Three websites to check out for programs – Rrewards.com, Paperretriever.com and Terracycle.net. Websites worth a visit: Earth911.com, PRC.org, EPA.gov
  - *Programs at MES:*
  - Juice Box Recycling – done in cafeteria. \$.02/pouch (must be cleaned out)
  - Candy Wrapper Recycling – new brigade. Bins in the lobby
  - Empty tape cartridge recycling, Ink cartridges and cell phones (contact Jude Cleary directly on the cell phones)
  - Abitibi Recycling (green and gold bin by cafeteria and basketball courts) – recycling paper to make money for the school
  - Girl Scout troops can earn badges if they help with recycling efforts
- **TAG – Traveling Art Gallery** – Nicole Smith, chair
  - 1<sup>st</sup> meeting at Ingomar Elementary School (9/20)
  - Art appreciation program held in the fall. There are three presentations for your child's class and two other classes (40 minutes each). No artistic ability needed.
- **Kidstuff Books** – Amy Finley, chair. Books went home in backpacks 9/7
- **Birthday Book Club** – Christine Griffin
  - There will be an updated listing of books available next week. Program allows parents to purchase books to be donated to the library for special occasions for their child.
- **Fundraising** – Jennifer Roy
  - Sent out flyer requesting a donation only fundraiser (no catalog sales)
  - Suggested amount \$40/family (will be emailed a tax deductible receipt)
- **Market Day** – Alisa Pennington
  - Flyers going out in Thursday envelopes
- **PSC** – Prepaid Shopping Cards, Amy Belden / Krista Tozier, chairs
  - Listing will come out when sales are being held
- **Box Tops** – Heather Zottoli, chair

- Collection boxes are located in each homeroom
- 1 classroom / grade will win for most box tops collected – prizes
- **Target Rewards Program** – Elinor Avigad - register your Target Visa Red Card. Percentage of money spent goes back to the school in September
- **Apples for Students at Giant Eagle** – Melinda Spano
  - Register your Giant Eagle advantage card.
  - Catalog to choose prizes from based on dollar received from program
- **Room Parent Committee** – Jill Dougherty, Ann Passodelis, Tammy Nash
  - Meeting 9/23 at 9:15 am in the LGI
  - Need volunteers for room parents and grade level coordinators, especially for PM Kindergarten
- **Holiday Shop** – no committee chair at this time (9/16 deadline for chair or holiday shop will be cancelled)
- **Health and Wellness** – Jana Lake, chair
  - Great volunteer response for the committee!
- **Publishing** – Gretchen Pittman, Chair
  - Role is to make the books for the 1<sup>st</sup> grade tea in the Spring
  - Need donations of cereal boxes and fabric
  - Parents of 1<sup>st</sup> graders will volunteer to help make the books

## Voting

- **Co-President assignment** - Vanessa Vassar-Bush as Co-President – all approved
- **Revision to By-Laws**, Heidi Coltin
  - Summary of Proposed Changes to MES PFA By-Laws:
    - PFA Meetings
      - Removed requirement to hold monthly PFA Meetings;
      - Removed mention of acts occurring in May meeting, replaced with occurring in final meeting of the school year.
    - Exec Board Changes
      - No longer appoints a Nominating Committee, but ensures slate of nominees for next year's board → no candidate that meets prerequisites of position will be denied opportunity to run
      - Develops Spring budget w/o input from next year's board
      - Explicit grounds for dismissal: failure to maintain confidentiality
    - Changes in Officer Duties
      - President need not sit on SPLC, able to assign designate
      - VP Volunteers need not sit on EAC, able to assign designate
      - VP Membership no longer runs Welcome Committee
      - Transfer of responsibility occurs at end of school year rather than June 1
  - Approved – Christine Griffin, Nancy Ceccarelli

## **Administrative Report** – Dr. Jim Bradley, principal

- Thanks to all for attending the meeting, volunteering for the committees and for those of you who are on the Executive Board. He encouraged everyone to get involved.
- **New Changes:**
  - New Assistant Principal, Miss Rachel Fields (from FT to PT Assistant Principal)
  - New computer systems, curriculum and websites
- **Budget** – budgets are tight and going green LY with the help of Jude Cleary in Environmental has been making an impact on the bottom line. Budgets will be 2-3 times worse TY than LY.
- **Fees** – Fees will be instituted for Intramurals only for elementary schools
- **Volunteering in classrooms** – no background checks or clearances needed b/c parent is not alone with students, teacher is there
- **Conferences** – 1.5 days for in service days in November and a half a day the following week b/c teachers have a training that they need to attend during the in service days
- **Esembler** – A new online gradebook will be rolled out in the Fall. Call or email the teachers if you have questions/concerns on grades before that time.
- **Classroom Sizes** – larger classroom sizes this year because of budget constraints
  - K-2<sup>nd</sup> (not over 25 students), 4-5<sup>th</sup> (not over 30), 3<sup>rd</sup> (can go either way)
- **Going Green** – PFA email is being widely utilized by the parents. Must join the PFA to receive email communications
- **Back To School Night** – Shannon Smalley, chair
  - 100% participation from teachers except for 3
  - Excellent turnout of families and well received by parents
- **Thursday Envelopes** – link is missing on MES website home page – will be on this afternoon by Mrs. Hall
- **Popcorn** – used all popcorn available at BTS night. Heidi Coltin will donate from Boy Scout program

Meeting Adjourned at 10:15 am