

Liberty Middle School PTO Meeting Minutes August 29, 2008

Meeting called to order at 9:30 am by Laura Sams.

In attendance: Andrea Wood, Annie Dalby, Anne Merrells, Rhonda Worcester, Leanne Gossett, Mary Kay McCoy, Susan Bolton, Vanessa Hamilton, Betsey Farquhar-Bradish, Mark Latham, Tina Flannery, Tracy Robinson, Janette Leonard, Laura Sams, Kellie Schoettmer, Lisa Crum, Ann Ruland, Karen Anderson, Gena Williams

Secretary's Report: Andrea Wood

May 2008 meeting minutes presented for approval.

**Motion made by Susan Bolton, second by Janette Leonard to approve minutes.
Motion approved.**

President's Report: Laura Sams

Welcome to all in attendance. Introductions were made around the room.

Volunteer needs for the school year:

Assistant Treasurer, P/T Conference Dinner Chair, Beautification/Landscaping Chair, 8th Grade Celebration, Webpage

Several Brown Bag Lunches are scheduled for September 10 and 25. They are open forums to talk and discuss school concerns with Gena and Charlie.

Treasurer's Report: Susan Bolton

Books have been updated.

Expenses: \$500 for PPT to Alum Creek, 6th grade orientation expenses to Laura, accounting software.

Deposits: BTS store- \$1173.53, LogoWear- \$416, large deposit from last year Scrip sales- \$43,000 is starting amount for 08-09 school year

Review of proposed budget for 2008-2009 school year. (See attached proposed budget.)

Discussion to combine landscaping and school beautification into one line item.

Discussion of money to be spent by PTO for window film/shades/blinds for Library.

Rough estimate of what we could possibly spend is \$10,000.

Comments from Gena regarding money to teachers. The school budget is based on what teachers tell her they would like. She wants to work with the teachers on a "need", not "want" basis. Gena and Laura will meet with teachers to tell them what is available to them from PTO. There are 14 new teachers to LMS this year.

Motion made by Tina Flannery, second by Anne Merrells, to amend proposed budget to combine Landscaping and School Beautification as one line item, and to approve 2008-2009 budget as amended. Motion approved.

Principal's Report: Gena Williams

Introduction of new Guidance Counselor, Mr. Durrell.

Thank you for the addition to the landscaping corners by the north entrance. It has been a smooth start to the year. The time increase in core classes is working well so far.

WEB leaders helped greatly with 6th grade arrival. Discussion of confusion with scheduled for the first day for 6th graders. Curriculum night went very well, positive feedback from parents, it was organized and easy to follow.

Formative Assessment: Gena is both excited and disappointed in some aspects. It is not a new concept, but we are executing it a new way. Further explanation to come as to how classes will be taught differently. It will support the needs of learning across all levels and enhance growth to all students. Up to now, the highest achievers have progressed the least. There was a discussion of lack of communication to parents prior to curriculum night and a discussion of SOAR.

Student Council will be decided soon. We have 5 officers, applications for other members will be available for 7th and 8th graders, 6th graders later. It will be promoted at the pep rally at the end of September.

Assistant Treasurer: Mark Latham

Scrip: Approximately \$17,000 in budget for Kroger and gift cards. (\$23,000 shown in budget because we didn't have a full school last year.) 2% of Kroger and gift cards go to DC trip funds per student, when they use Kroger card and purchase gift cards.

Reporter: Tina Flannery

Newsletter will continue to go out once a month. The information will filter through Laura and Mark to Tina. Hope to keep monthly deadlines consistent.

Old Business:

School Store: Karen Anderson will chair. She is meeting soon with the outgoing chair. The store will probably begin in October.

BTS Store: Denise All did an exceptional job this year! \$1,173.53 profit. Discussion of suggested changes for next year.

Ongoing Business:

Scrip Report: Betsey Farquhar-Bradish:

Big change this year, in that you can go online and purchase Scrip cards for anything you may want to purchase- hotels, Home Depot, etc, etc. You can pay through a Presto Pay, which is taken directly from your checking acct. There is a .39 charge for each order. The directions on how to do this are menu-driven and very easy. It will remember your order from the past month, but a new order will need to be placed each month. There are some gift cards (CVS, Gap, Starbucks) that can be reloaded, no need to order new cards.

Gift cards are sent to Vanessa Hamilton via UPS and she will deliver to school once a month. Parents who order can p/u at school or make special arrangements with Vanessa. The profits from Scrip go directly into our PTO account, Scrip administration and tracking is much easier now. We need the support of parents to make it profitable so we aren't forced to do fundraisers!

PPT: Janette Leonard

The first forum is scheduled for Sept. 24, on Homework Health and Stress Management.

The others scheduled for now are in February: Bullying, and April: Alcohol and Drug Prevention. Childcare is available. Wyandot Run and Indian Springs are still in need of parent reps.

LogoWear:

\$419 profit so far. Many items have sold out. We will possibly do a second order and sell items during Bookfair and concerts.

Apples for Students:

Program through Giant Eagle to earn money for the school and teachers to purchase things through accumulated points. To register, go to Giant Eagle website, enter school ID# 3520.

New Business:

Directory: Karen Yarrows volunteered to handle this year.

Parent Teacher Conference Dinners: Chair is needed.

Magazine Sales: Laura Sams will Chair, will ask for volunteers to help

Family Event: We want to do an event not as a fundraiser, but as a way to get parents into the school. Discussion of possible activities for the event.

Motion made by Kelly Schoettmer, second by Vanessa Hamilton, to adjourn the meeting at 11:32am. Motion approved.