

PTG Meeting

October 7th, 2008

<u>In Attendance</u>	
Janet Caven	Julie Al-Rai
Amanda Rausch	Lisa Johnson
Jennifer Anderson	Dyan Sherwood
Becky Swinney	Karen Hatfield
Jenna Barthel	Dawn Moder
Tricia Masanz	Lisa Starr
Mandy Frederickson	Jack Williams
Jackie McNamara	Brenna Reichle
Wendy Harris	Erik Queen
Kelly Anderson	

6:35 Meeting commences.

- Introduction of Officers
- Jenny Anderson, Co-Chair, would like to have a parent volunteer next year for her position.

6:47 Treasurer's Report

- Checking account balance: \$6353.37
- Money market account balance(designated for playground): \$7867.69
- Playground fund: \$4006.28

Budget Plan

6:55 Administration Requests

- Question: Could PTG help families with the cost of fieldtrips this year? Dyan answers that MDS already does that. Dyan also mentions that fieldtrips will be less frequent this year with the focus of reducing costs to parents. Erik Queen comments that all MDS cookbook profits are going towards fieldtrips.
- Question about new legislation regarding driving the MDS vans. The new law states that no deaf persons are allowed to drive the vans and any hearing staff must go through an intense screening process. Until further notice, no one will be allowed to drive the school vans. Please show your support for change with this law when it is brought to the legislature in January.

7:05 Motion to pass Administration requests: Motion passed.

7:10 Jackie McNamara requests PTG help offset the price to families of an onsite LEGO fieldtrip. Motion to donate \$210: Motion passed.

7:11 Karen Hatfield requests PTG have a Para Appreciation Day. Motion to have PTG host a Para Appreciation Day: Motion passed.

7:15 Playground Update

- Playground will be in new place, by the new future gym (in the back corner).
- PTG and Nan (representing the Building Committee) has been meeting to get the ball rolling. Melissa Sweetmilk is working with a consultant to come up with a new design. After a design is drawn up, PTG will meet with a fundraising consultant.
- Question: Why the back corner? Answer: Because it's close to gym and will not take away any parking spots.
- Question: What about the retaining wall? Answer: This will already be pushed back to make room for the new gym, so we will have the space.
- Question: Is PTG paying for the consultant? Answer: No, because we plan to use their products/services, so the initial designing and consulting is free of charge.

7:25 Fundraising Update

- All the money for the yearly budget is earned through fundraisers.
- Motion to continue Sally Foster and Tri-lingual Calendars fundraisers: Motion passed.
- Need 2 Co-Chairs for annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. Would like to see new people volunteer who haven't taken on this role in the past.
- New ideas: Tasting party will be sometime in January/February.

7:42 Motion to have Spaghetti Dinner on April 24th: Motion passed.

7:45 MDS, MNSA Merger Update (please see attached update "Making the Case" from the board)

- This process is being referred to as a Grade Level Expansion (GLE) for now.
- In the process of securing funds and hiring a contractor.
- Question: Can make a basement for storage? Answer: Not cost effective.
- Order of events:
 - Oct./Nov.: When state approves request, will hold a meeting for staff and parents to vote.
 - Nov.: Send to state for final approval.
 - Oct./Nov.: Secure funding.
 - Mar.-Aug. 2009: Construction begins.

8:10 Meeting adjourned.