

PTA MONTHLY MINUTES



Minutes of Chittick Elementary School PTA General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, March 16th, 2011

Mike Trzaska, Treasurer, called the PTA meeting to order @ 7:32 p.m.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

President, Vacant Position: Mike Trzaska, Treasurer facilitated the meeting on behalf of the Board. Mike T. welcomed all and thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. He went on to remind all that we still need volunteers for current open Board Positions of President, President Elect & Corresponding Secretary.

VP Cultural Arts, Melissa Tapia was absent, no report provided.

VP Fundraising, Chris Conlon reported the Hershey fundraiser is running currently. So far 54 boxes of chocolates have been ordered for selling. Chris hopes that orders pick up so that we can at least match what we made last year on the candy sale. The candy sale will run for the rest of the year.

Treasurer, Mike Trzaska presented & reviewed current standing PTA budget as of March 2011, all were given a chance to review and question, but no questions were brought forth. Mike went on to congratulate the Book Fair Committee on a very successful Book Fair. He went on to mention that we are hoping for a successful Spring Fundraiser and hopes we can match what was made last year (\$1400). Mike also reported that the 5th Grade Committee may have some extra funds from their Read Across America T Shirt Sale that they would like to allocate back into the General PTA Budget, but that they need to wait until they confirm how much funding will actually be available. Annette C. mentioned that those funds might need to be allocated to the School's Year Book Committee to offset the cost of the Year Book. She went on to mention that it depends on how much money is made from the Joe Corbi Spring Fundraiser. Annette C. hopes that they will know the exact amounts by next month's General PTA Meeting. Mike stated that if the funds are available for the General PTA, we would like to put that towards a Cultural Arts Event (Puppeteers presentation recommended by Mr. Baron).

Recording Secretary, Mary Heapes asked General Members to review minutes from February 15th, 2011. Mrs. Anderson motioned to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded and carried. Minutes were approved by General Members as presented.

Corresponding Secretary, Vacant Position: Thank you cards were received from Mrs. Krauss, one thanking the PTA for making Read Across America Day special by having the Zoo Assembly, and the other thanking the Book Fair Committee for their hard work and the great books that were given to the library. The 4th Grade thanked the PTA for the 3C grant that funded their trip to the Trenton State House and Old Barracks Museum.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Septa: Lara M. reported that there will be a presentation @ the EB Library on March 28th @ 7pm; speakers will include a Chiropractor and Reading Specialist. All are welcome to attend.

Membership Chair, Melissa Tapia was absent; there was no update on membership.

Box Tops Chairs, Diane Landante & Kim Perez: Kim P. reported that we have made exceeded our goal of \$1400 by over \$500. Mr. Baron will be dressing up in a clown suit and will allow pies to be thrown at him in celebration of Chittick reaching its goal.

School Store Chair, Taryn Zelezny stated that there was nothing new to report. There are 2 people that might be interested in taking over the school store for next year (2011-12), but so far, they have 'not' committed.

5th Grade Committee Chair, Annette Carrera reports that they are busy planning the 5th Grade Social. They are working hard at keeping costs down. The theme will be Travel. If anyone has any suggestions or donations for decorating the social, they will be

appreciated. The 5th Grade Picnic is already arranged and they are in the process of paying for the buses, once Annette gets a final count of adult volunteers, she will know how many buses she needs to order. Annette thanked Priva who gave her the name of a vendor that will be \$109 cheaper than last year's vendor. Mike T. encouraged the 5th Grade Committee to finalize the contract with the bus vendor before the soaring fuel prices cause the bus company to raise their fees.

Year Book: Annette C. reported that she will be working on the year book with Principal Steven Decker and Toni Patton. In order to decrease the cost of the year books for Chittick Families, Chittick will offer a fundraiser (Joe Corbi) which will offset the cost of the books.

Chittick Chatter Chair, Mike Trzaska reminded all that an electronic version was uploaded to the PTA Website. A hard copy was given to each classroom who participated in this volume so that if a parent did not have internet access, they could enjoy a copy.

Chittick Wear Chair, Melissa Tapia was absent, no report provided.

Bingo Night Chair, Bethann Shultz, absent, Annette C. reported on her behalf that BINGO night was a great success. It went very well and the kids love it and especially loved the gift cards for Best Buy, Toys R Us and the Justin Beiber CD.

International Night Chair, Susy Heredia reported that the flyers have been sent home. Susy mentioned that so far there will be a Chinese School doing a Tai Chi presentation, Indian dancing, Japanese Poetry reading, etc... She welcomes all donations of ethnic food items or entertainment and mentioned that volunteers are still needed for setup and hallway monitoring.

Spring Clothing Drive Chair, Laura Clarke was absent, but Taryn Z. reported that the Clothing Drive is scheduled for March 26th from 10 to 2, rain or shine. We will earn 15 cents/lb. Taryn asked Mr. Decker if he would like to donate the excess items from the Chittick Lost & Found. Mr. Decker agreed, but will first send home a notice to parents that they have until a certain date [TBD] to check the lost and found for their child's missing items before all items are donated to the Red Cross.

Theater Week Chair Annette Carrera reported that they flyers have been sent home. So far she has had an overwhelming response. They will be performing Oliver this year. The show will be at the EBHS since there is more room there. Theater Week will run from April 4th to April 8th. They will sell DVD's of the performance as well.

Spring Pictures Chair Roslyn Bermudez reported that she had a flyer that needs to be distributed to the Teacher's; she will make copies and place it in their mailboxes. Spring Pictures is scheduled for Monday, April 11th.

Book Fair Chair, Kim Perez reported that the last Book Fair brought in \$5,708.61 (a \$1,000 increase over last years at this time). Kim also reported that the "One for Books" promotion earned \$232 for the library.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Playground Committee Chairs Linda Riccio, Melissa Tapia & Steven Decker: Mr. Decker reported that due to the BOE Code Restrictions of having to use the new rubber mulching, the financial burden is too great to afford purchasing and installing a new playground piece. He mentioned that he research and got prices for benches instead. The cost for a bench would be \$805.28. Discussion ensued amongst the PTA Board & Membership. Ricardo L motioned to approve the purchase of 3 benches for the Chittick Playground. Motion was seconded and unanimously carried. Discussion ensued also about extra funding that the PTA previously benchmarked to be used towards the purchase of a more expensive piece, which is no longer necessary since we have decided to go with 3 benches. A. Carrera motioned to have any excess funds left over after the purchase of 3 benches to be put back into the General PTA Current Year Budget, motioned was seconded and unanimously carried.

Committee Chairs Needed: Mike T. reminded all that there are currently no chairs for Snack Sale & Carnival.

Bylaws: Principal Steven Decker inquired if there is anything in the Bylaws that gives a time lime the PTA can function without a PTA President. Adele B. stated our PTA Bylaws are silent on that issue. Mike T. states he will follow up with the Presidents Council and Trish LaDuca to inquire. Adele B. also states that our PTA Bylaws need to be updated. PTA will follow up with Adele on the correct process for having them submitted/updated.

Talent Show Chair Annette Carrera reported that the try outs for the Talent Show will be on Wednesday, April 13th. Practices will be Tuesdays and Thursday's. The Talent Show will be on Thursday, June 9th in the evening for families and on Friday, June 10th during Assembly.

BOE Budget: Kirk, general member, reminded all that the BOE will be making their budget presentation on March 24th at Hammarskjold and encouraged all to attend. General discussion ensued about this year's proposed BOE Budget. Mike T also encouraged everyone to visit the BOE Website to review the proposed budget.

PTA End of Year Dinner Chair Susy Heredia reported that she has stepped up to take over planning the dinner this year. She would also like to add a small raffle to the dinner this year. She asked if anyone has connections to local vendors or vendors such as Avon or Pampered Chef, that donations would be appreciated. Susy added that her goal is to have a few gift baskets valued at \$50 each that could be raffled off at the dinner.

PRINCIPAL & TEACHER'S REPORTS

Principal Steven Decker thanked all for their hard work on the Book Fair. He stated that it was run very smoothly and that they did a wonderful job. He also thanked the PTA for the Zoo Assembly; he mentioned the event went very well and was professionally done. He also mentioned that on Wednesday, March 16th, Miss Teen USA will be visiting the school and will talk about respect and bullying.

Mrs. Krauss again thanked the PTA for the Zoo Assembly and making Read Across America Day 'extra' special. She also thanked the Book Fair Committee for all the new books that were donated to the Library.

Student Raffle:

Brianna P. (K to 2) & Hayley C. (3-5) won gift bags.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at ~8:45 pm.