



Carrolltowne Elementary PTA Minutes October 2, 2008

- **Meeting called to order by President Mary Ellen O'Neill at 7:09 pm.** A sign in sheet was circulated. There were 33 people in attendance.
- **Minutes from September 9, 2008 meeting** - Debbie Thompson made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by Michele Geidel.
- **Treasurer Report (Cheryl Leupen):** Handed out budget; Whitney Frey made a motion to approve the budget and it was seconded by Kim Woodward.
- **President's Report (Mary Ellen O'Neill):**

"Cardinal Tales" After School Club – will speak to each class during book week, and each teacher's class will have a folder to submit work, including poetry, non-fiction, fiction and letters.

School Kitz – problem last year because of team/teacher changes, and several classes/grades were shorted...the lists that the teachers submitted in April changed by August. We will re-evaluate this at our November meeting...also pointed out that the PTA doesn't make money on this, but rather provides it as a service for the parents...some questioned quality of products included in kits (backpack disintegrates, etc.)...will see if we can get lower priced option from possibly another company...the number of people participating in the School Kitz program has been stable over the past 3 years...School Kitz is through Staples, and there are other companies that provide similar service...we should investigate...also could send out notice to parents when/if there are things that are new that are not in the kits.

Original Works – Artwork fundraiser. Originalworks.com has more information. We would get back 30% for fundraising, and get the original artwork back.

Fun Run – people were concerned that there wasn't as much notice this year, and that we may not make as much because of the economy; other local schools who have similar event have reported less \$\$ being raised this year.

Mike Fiorelli Golf Tournament on Columbus Day.

PTA Meeting reminders only went out to K and 1st Grade...we are trying to go paperless, and continue to encourage use of eSchoolNewsletter.

Book Fair – Starts on October 20, and October 27 is Family Night from 5:30 pm to 8 pm

Language Program – No classes this fall; aiming for mid-winter or early spring. We can use PTA liability, and can have classes here at school; Grant Teacher \$\$ (supplies, materials, admin fee)

- **Vice President's Report (Michele Carroll):**

Going Green – Paper recycling in rooms, want to find out what is done in cafeteria, what can be recycled?

Possible VP Opening – Michele may be moving to Israel for 1 year, starting end of this year; will keep us posted.

- **Principal's Report (Terry Ball):**

Discussed "Green Team", which includes group of teachers and staff who will be planting flowers in the front of the building, looking into installing bike racks, and recycling program.

Also, after Thanksgiving Break, kids will move into new rooms (moved up from December). May need help with packing.

October 17/18 – Add doors to Media Center (will lose part of mural), and sprinklers are being added.

November features American Education Week. We will probably do the same this year, and then get feedback. Teachers are asking for something different than American Education Week (as it is currently structured, it takes away from Instruction). Possible thought of Grandparents Day?

- **Assistant Principal's Report (Shavon Showers):**

Conferences are going well; PBIS – 85 to 90% are good, and students are taking ownership of the Cardinal Rules.

(Over)

- **Committee Reports:**

Birthday Books – Started this week; volunteers needed for each grade; we have 4 new volunteers so far; everyone gets a book, including Prep which is now included in the program.

Business – Martins sign up: So far we have about 60 (30 from Back to School Night, and 30 from Volunteer Training); will put info on our PTA website; Discussed Wal Mart grant up to \$1k for community service (this would go to school, not PTA)...we have to get form from Wal Mart in February (too late for this year); UPC/Box Tops – Start collection sheets.

Community Service – Book Drive in October, new and used books (all types), also doing “One for Books” where we ask \$1 towards purchase of books. We will have a link to the PDF on the PTA website.

Fun Run – Is on Tuesday, and everyone receives a poster for participating (rain date is October 10).

Cultural – On Nov 3, 5th Grade is going to JA Biztown. Prior to that, there will be a 3 to 4 week curriculum. Cost is \$15/student (PTA and School pick up rest of cost); On Nov 20, Author Mike Knudson (“Raymond and Graham Rule the School”) will speak w/the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades; Cheryl also solicited feedback for ideas for cultural events.

Hospitality – Teacher conference picnic dinner and teacher appreciation week.

Literacy – Had a meeting, and we’re shooting for March 27 for Author Visit (Barry Louis Polisar – www.barrylou.com)

December 10 is the Holiday Concert – thinking of doing “Hot Chocolate” Song, and packaging it with cocoa and marshmallow as a favor or sell to recoup cost.

Membership – 234-ish Members...thanks to Jenn Harrison for Excel Spreadsheet. Cards should be arriving next week. 71 out of 102 teachers are signed up as members. Additionally, K, 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades are all at 100% participation. Membership drive ends on October 31, 2008.

Misc Fundraisers – Ledo Day is November 18 (30% of Average Normal Profit); also talked about purchasing Cardinal Mascot (this is approx \$1k).

Publicity – Jenn Murphy is heading this committee, and wants to get Carrolltowne included more in the local papers.

School Store – Needs volunteers for Tuesday mornings; need about 3 people to work it (8:35 to 9:30...store is open from 8:45 to 9:15).

School Spirit – The Spirit Wear was displayed at the meeting; have embroidered polo shirt for Carrolltowne Staff; also working on Family Game Night and Bingo Night.

Volunteers – 9/30 is a big day – all volunteer training will expire from last year, and you’ll have to be retrained for this year. So far, 287 people have been trained. Next training is October 6, 2008.

- **New Business:** None to report.
- **Door Prize:** #32 – Nikki Jones (won a \$10 gift certificate to Zipani)
- **Meeting Adjourned at 8:33 pm**

Respectfully submitted by:



Mort Shuman
PTA Secretary
Carrolltowne Elementary