



## Carrolltowne Elementary PTA Minutes December 4, 2008

- **Meeting called to order by President Mary Ellen O'Neill at 7:05 pm.** A sign in sheet was circulated. There were 36 people in attendance.
- **Minutes from November 6, 2008 meeting** – Michele Geidel made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by Erica Hamilton.
- **Treasurer Report (Cheryl Leupen):** Made \$4,000 on Bingo Night; \$1,515 was spent on Bingo Night; \$1,200 being put towards Fundraiser Line Items; \$1,405 left over; The Cultural Committee spent a couple of thousand dollars on various programs so far this year; Ways and Means committee reported \$17,300+ in Fun Run (goal was \$20,000), however we did better than any other school in area. Whitney Frey made a motion to approve the budget, and it was seconded by Nancy Beebe.
- **President's Report (Mary Ellen O'Neill):**

Thanks to the following committees: Cultural - Mike Knudson presentation to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders, gave books to teachers, and read to kids; Community Service - West End Senior Center holiday drive; Spirit – Bingo was very well done – thanks to Jenn Harrison! There is a cooler still in the PTA Closet from Bingo Night, and also wanted to note that the Nachos were a big hit.

Mrs. Saxton (Music) – Students will be singing a song called “Hot Chocolate” during the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Program; we will sell cups with Hot Cocoa Mix, with the proceeds going to the Music Department.

Next week – the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Program. There will be a concert during the day for students, and one at night for the parents.

How much should we sell the Cocoa for? \$1? Donations will also be accepted. We'll scoop cocoa into a small baggie with marshmallows. We need a big sign saying proceeds go to the Music Department, not the PTA.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Leader – Mrs. Reese needs help with collecting Tennis Balls; the new rooms have no carpets and the chairs scuff the floor, so tennis balls help prevent these scratches. Could the PTA buy carpet squares and/or area rugs? Michele Geidel suggested we check with model homes and builders and get boxes of squares and samples. This is needed for 20 classrooms. Can we use teacher grant money for carpets? PTA Funds can't be used for capital improvements. Cheryl will double check on this. Also, who are the room moms? They may want to take up a collection for rugs, especially 1<sup>st</sup> grade.

Cardinal Tales – 31 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders taking part. First publication is set for January 31, 2009. Going very well. Kids are motivated. 2 parents help out.

- **Vice President's Report (Michele Carroll):**  
No report
- **Assistant Principal's Report (Shavon Showers):**

Thanks to the parents who helped move belongings for move into rooms. At 6:30 pm on the night of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Program there will be another preview of the new rooms. There will be a formal open house when the rooms are all completed. Dust concerns – We are working on it and the construction manager is looking into it. The front corridor will be shut down until March due to construction. Principal

Ball will return on 12/10. What are the students feedback on the new areas? They love the lockers. The teachers took the students on a tour first, and the teachers also like the new rooms. Also, teachers will be in the main hallway directing kindergarteners on how to get to their classes (because main corridor will be closed).

- **Teacher's Report (Edna Martin):**

American Education Week went well. Question was asked why do we do this during week before Thanksgiving, but that is when the national dates are.

- **Committee Reports:**

**Business** – 189 people are signed up at Martins, made \$936; Safeway has 70 people signed up, and has brought in \$111 so far; we don't have stats so far for Food Lion. Box Tops – will award prizes if you submit box tops from flyer (randomly selected – 1 or 2 per grade). Question was asked – can we use Business Products \$ to purchase rugs? Since it's not a PTA Sponsored committee?

**Carrolltowne Connection** – Seeking assistance in producing newsletter. Will ask Michele Geidel's husband.

**Community Service** – West End Senior Center donations – goal is 70 gift bags; so far, donations have been a little sparse; will need help packing tomorrow; items are for 40 females and 30 males; we try to buy products you can't use government assistance for.

**Cultural** – Mike Knudson – free author who came to our school (along with Linton Springs in the morning); he was lots of fun! Also have in house field trip – BreadMake, which is a production line that will bake bread in ovens and every child will get a loaf to bring home; Also have a storyteller coming for Prep.

**Language** – Working hard with Debra and Cheryle; found teachers who will come in to teach – this was a lot of work; everything is a go; we have to sign contracts (there are some very minor changes that need to be made). First week of January – we hope to start. Tuesday Mornings will feature Chinese, and After School on Wednesday will feature French; Checks should be made payable directly to teacher; 2 parents must be in the room at all times.

**Literacy** – There will be a week in March called “Dear, Drop Everything and Read” – this will consist of 10 minutes for the lower grades, and 15 – 20 for the upper grades. Everyone, including teachers, should participate. Author Barry Polizar will be here on April. Will meet again in Mid-January; we do have a Mom on the committee who has offered to help. Someone asked if the teachers were asked for their input? Do they know this is coming?

**Membership** – 3 more members; total of 203 families; this is our best year in a long time.

**Publicity** – Various articles have appeared in the Advocate, Eagle, etc. Thanks to Jenn Murphy for her work on getting the word out about Carrolltowne's PTA and our activities. Need to get something out re: Senior Center Drive, as well as BreadBake.

**School Sign** – Will be changed tomorrow.

**Misc Fundraisers** – We made \$610 during Ledo day! This will help our Mascot Fund. We will probably do McDonald's night again, and possibly Ritas? Chilis? Also displayed “Kid Stuff” Coupon Book (similar to Entertainment Book)

**School Spirit** – Thanks for coming to Bingo Night! May not do a Father/Daughter dance because other groups do that.; Hats are still available for sale; Jenn deserves big kudos for Bingo Night!

**Volunteers** – Another training session scheduled for March 2009; there are close to 400 Carrolltowne Volunteers (last year we had 430); will double check our numbers.

**Ways and Means** – Almost done with Fun Run Distributions; considering getting rid of Best Buy next year for gifts – they were not very helpful to us; Little Professor – 20% off; Toys R Us – they are telling us how to apply for a grant; Possibly get Game Stop gift cards for next year? There were more parents who showed up to the Fun Run this year, as well as Grandparents. Next year – we need to get kids ideas on what types of rewards they would want for next year.

**Yearbook** – Next month is our Yearbook photo – be sure to be here on time as we will take the photo at the beginning of our meeting.

- **New Business:** Honor Roll – a parent brought this up, but was not here to speak; Holidays and Parties – could we have 4 celebrations per year? We may discuss this again at January's meeting. Assistant Principal Showers said that Principal Ball does not want holiday celebrations at School to take away instruction time at school. We will put this on the agenda for next month's meeting.

Question was asked - Is there a sing-a-long this year? Answer is Yes, it is during specials.

Zipani manager passed away – he was very supportive of Carrolltowne Elementary.

Box Tops – What happened to the \$? We still need to sign up for DirectTV program.

- **Door Prize:** #16 – Deena Waskey (won Cherished Teddy Bear)
- **Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 pm**

**Respectfully submitted by:**



**Mort Shuman**  
PTA Secretary  
Carrolltowne Elementary