

McMurray Elementary PTA Meeting Minutes Tuesday, January 12, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 9:18 am.

President's Remark - Lisa Briegel

Principal's Remark – Dr. Freado asked the PTA for funds to assist in the purchase of materials for the new Artist in Residence project. He let the membership know that hand washing is still going on and attendance is normal. Dr. Freado also said that the carpeting in the Hub classrooms are being replaced, room 105 students have been moved to the library due to sinus issues. The roof should be repaired by the end of February and an environmental company is testing the ceiling tile for mold. He said that there was a change in homework and absent days. If a student is absent for one day work will not be sent home, however if longer the parents may request work be sent home.

Guest Speaker – Dr. Freado introduced Mr. DeCario, 5th Grade Facilitator, who highlighted the 5th grade curriculum. The 5th graders get tested 3 different times-SAT test in November, PSSA test 2 weeks in April. The students will also participate in the state fair which goes along with the Geography unit and will require parent involvement. They will also take a field trip to Fort Ligonier in May. Mr. DeCario suggested parent can email ideas for field trips to him. The last item he mentioned was the Wonders of Wonders, which goes along with Family Living Unit. Also in attendance was Mrs. Burke, the art teacher. She gave an overview of the Artist in Residence program. The program was being expanded to all grades and will provide time after school for more children to participate. Mrs. Burke passed around a sign up sheet for parent volunteers and asked the PTA to consider donating money to help purchase supplies for the program. Guidance Counselors Mrs. Ali-5A and 6th and Ms. Gruhn-4th and 5B made the membership aware that the Guidance Department came up with a survey that they would like feedback to help improve the Dept. Email blast will announce when the survey is ready. The last guest speaker was Mrs. Belcher, Communications Coordinator for the district. She went over her various duties and responsibilities for the district.

Minutes were approved as written

Treasurer's Report – Nan Campbell was not present. Jodi Hannah asked for a motion to pay bills. Deb Smith made the motion and Sarah Lindsay seconded.

First Vice President's Report – Carol Planitzer reminded everyone of the newsletter and weekly bulletin dates. She gave an update on Spelling Bee- 34 sixth grade students advanced to the second round which will be held on February 3rd. The location for the second round needs to be confirmed. Carol also thanked Mary Ulan for a wonderful job on membership.

Second Vice President's Report – Barb Calfo reminded everyone that the next Area Council meeting was January 21st with school principals. She informed us that there would be an assembly for all grades on January 21st by the CLO "Pioneers in Flight". Barb reminded the membership there would be a teacher appreciation luncheon on February 19th. Mary Pat would send a sign up sheet around for soups, salads and deli platters.

Third Vice President's Report – Andrea Michalski reminded membership that registration for after school classes would be held January 14th from 7:00-8:00 in room 110. November's box top contest brought in a lot of box tops. Movie night for 5th grade will be February 5th and volunteers are needed. Movie night for 4th grade has not been scheduled. Andrea said that the Reflections Assembly is January 22nd but no time has been set. Parents are invited and parents of 1st through 5th place winners will receive a phone call. She also asked for help for the Talent Show.

Fourth Vice President's Report – Margaret Rauscher thanked Sue Ralson, Sarah Lindsay and Carol Planitzer for providing food and refreshments for today's meeting. She reminded the membership the next Spirit Day is January 22nd.

Old Business – There was no old business to discuss.

New Business – There was a request from Lisa Briegel for volunteers for the H1N1 Clinic. Jodi made a motion to spend up to \$200 on the Artist in Residence Program and Deb Smith seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 am.

These minutes were recorded by Cathy Vargo, Recording Secretary, McMurray PTA.