

McMurray Elementary PTA Meeting Minutes Tuesday, November 10, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 am.

President's Remark - Lisa Briegel thanked Margaret Rauscher for organizing the refreshments for the meeting and thanked those who baked or brought refreshments in. She announced we are still in need of a Hospitality chairperson and also there was a sign up sheet for refreshments for future meetings.

Principal's Remark – Dr. Freado presented “8 Habits of Highly Effective McMurray Students” and highlighted his visit to AB Combs School in North Carolina. Training on the 8 Habits would begin in the upcoming weeks. He also asked Barb Calfo to read the “8 Habits of Highly Effective PTAs”. Dr. Freado reminded everyone that November is month of kindness and December is month of service. He also gave the dates for 5th grade SAT testing and said teachers make provisions for students who take 6th grade math and no student will miss any work. Dr. Freado asked the PTA for funds to assist in the purchase of materials for the new Artist in Residence project. He agreed the Principal fund could be used as well as asking the Student Council for money. PTA agreed to match Student Council funds.

Guest Speaker - Lisa Briegel introduced Dr. Kumar Patel, Board Certified local allergist. Dr. Patel discussed H1N1 and flu vaccinations. A person who has an egg allergy with a whole body reaction, should not get the vaccine. Only 20% of the children who come into his office really do have allergies. The only way to see if a person is allergic to something is to be tested. He encouraged schools to assess their level of risk with food allergies. He also encouraged parents to make their children aware of their own allergies. He provided the membership with hand outs, answered questions and offered to come to a future meeting.

Also present were representatives of the 5th and 6th grade student council. The student council informed the membership that 6th grade gets dismissed first then 5th then 4th. Walkers and car riders are dismissed last. The student store is ordering smelly bookmarks and pens as well as getting healthy snacks. They would like to have Subway instead of Pizza Hut once the contract ends with Pizza Hut.

Minutes were approved as written

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

First Vice President's Report – Carol Planitzer reminded everyone of the newsletter and weekly bulletin dates. She gave information about the upcoming Spelling Bee. Two 6th grade teachers will act as liaisons - Mrs. Flynn and Mrs. Kropiewnicki. A sign up sheet was also available for volunteering to help in December.

Second Vice President's Report – Barb Calfo reminded everyone that the next Area Council meeting was November 19th with school administration and there would not be an Area Council or PTA meetings in December. She informed us Mason Bell was the winner of the fall fundraiser and was given an iPod. Barb also reminded everyone about the deadline for ordering yearbooks and said no extras will be ordered. Order forms are available online. Barb reminded the membership the teacher appreciation dinner is this Thursday, November 12th.

Third Vice President's Report – Andrea Michalski was not present. Lisa Briegel gave her report. Lisa informed the membership that Tracey Lusk mailed in 11,000 box tops and that a new box top form was available in the PTA room. There were 100 Reflection entries received. The next level of judging will take place November 17th.

Fourth Vice President's Report – Margaret Rauscher thanked the chairpersons of the Brunch with the Principal as well as the Red Ribbon Week chairpersons. During Red Ribbon Week a door decorating contest was held. The winners for 4th grade were Mrs. Schinosi and Mr. Lovett, winners for 5th grade were Ms. DeCario and Ms. Snedden and the winners for 6th grade were Mrs. Hemmingson and Mrs. Muto. She reminded the membership the next Spirit Day is November 20th.

Old Business – There was no old business to discuss.

New Business – There was a request for an update on Reflections after judging took place. The request would be passed on to Beverly Opferman. There was a concern about sending in money with students for different service projects without any official note being sent home.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 am.

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

