

McMurray Elementary PTA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

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

President's Remarks – Geeta Welden, called the meeting to order. Geeta welcomed the parents of the incoming 4th graders to the meeting. She also mentioned the upcoming art show and asked that anyone who was interested in helping out call Mrs. Burke. Geeta introduced guest speakers Mrs. McKay and Mrs. Schinosi, who are 4th grade teachers at McMurray.

Guest Speaker – Mrs. McKay welcomed the 3rd grade parents to McMurray and discussed the importance of parental involvement, as well as home/school communication. Mrs. Schinosi also welcomed the parents and assured them about the transition to McMurray. She also discussed some summer prep the parents can work on with their student, including reading, math facts and cursive handwriting.

Principal's Remarks – Dr. Freado welcomed all present and mentioned that the 3rd grade parent orientation would be held May 21st at 6:30pm. He discussed the upcoming Spanning the Globe event.

President's Remarks (cont'd) – Geeta introduced the student council who recently met with Mrs. Rush. They discussed several lunch changes, such as a deli bar and homemade pizza. They stated that the store was done for the year. Mr. Bergman and Mrs. Chipple's classes won the Mutt Money contest and visited the Humane Society for a day. The fundraiser made \$2,500 total and will be used by the Humane Society to help build a new "cat room".

Principal's Remarks (cont'd) – Dr. Freado commended the Student Council for a successful year. He continued discussing upcoming events including the State Fair, the Economics Sale via the computer, the Spring Celebration, and the Award/Character presentations for the 6th grade. He mentioned that they are developing a "campus connection" program with the SADD group from the high school. A new Guidance Counselor will be selected to replace Mrs. Belora, and three current 5th grade teachers will be moving to 6th grade. In addition, a new Spanish teacher will be hired. Discussion took place regarding the number of changes being made at the 5th grade level, and the growing number of students. Dr. Freado stated that Dr. Zetty formed a committee to address the space issues.

President's Remarks (cont'd) – Geeta stated that the Secretary position on the board was open. Joanne Jaworski needed to resign her position. She asked for nominations from the floor. There were none, so there will be a nomination process in September. Geeta thanked the current board for their hard work and support.

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report – Sarah Lindsay asked if there were any questions regarding the register report. None were asked. Sarah moved to pay the bills. Jodi Hannah made the motion and Deb Smith seconded. It was approved.

1st Vice President's Report – Carol Planitzer stated that the Talent Show would be only one day, tomorrow. The concession stand proceeds would be donated to Relay for Life. She also said that the Volunteer Committee was planning the Spring Celebration and that a flyer would be coming home soon.

2nd Vice President's Report – Jodi Lesniakowski told the group that Mary Pat DiRenzo, Relay for Life Chair, is in need of volunteers for the event, scheduled for May 30th/31st from 2pm to 8am. The theme is Celebrate a Cure and that each team is to choose a holiday. Our holiday is Cinco de Mayo. She will send out emails asking for additional help. The yearbook committee needs to start now to plan for next year. They need a chair to come forward very soon to begin preparing. There are already

several artists and photographers willing to help out. It was suggested that the committee investigate possibly using the high school students to help out with this committee.

3rd Vice President – Barb Calfo reported that the next Area Council meeting would be held on May 21st, at 9:15am in the Admin. Building. Suzanne Mackay asked to remind the group that all are welcome, as these meetings are very informational. McMurray Day preparations are under way. The event will be held on June 8th (rain date June 9th) and should be lots of fun for the kids. Homeroom moms are getting the volunteers. Help is also needed for setup from 10:30-12:30. The next Teacher Appreciation lunch will be held on May 27th and will feature a drawing for gift cards, as well as a set of Pirate tickets and 1 Entertainment book for each teacher. This is compliments of Sally Foster.

4th Vice President – Michelle stated that the Newsletter deadline would be May 15th, and that items must be submitted to the appropriate V.P. She commended Sandy and Jackie on the Newsletter and thanked them for volunteering to do it again next year. The next spirit day will be May 29th. Michelle also encouraged all parents to sign up for Constant Contact on the first day of school.

Old Business – Sarah Lindsay thanked all who donated to the Pajama Drive this year. The numbers were down from last year, most likely due to the economy.

New Business – Mrs. Conkle is having a Walking Club celebration and needs helpers. Please contact her directly. June 1st there will be a wellness theme during recess. Shelly Banco will be procuring advertising for next year's directory. Geeta introduced that new board, and Dr. Freado thanked the outgoing board for their work.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 am.

These minutes were recorded by Joanne Jaworski, Recording Secretary, McMurray PTA.