

## McMurray Elementary PTA Meeting

Tuesday, October 12, 2010

The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:20 a.m.

**President's Remarks.** Lisa Briegel thanked everyone who helped with hospitality and introduced the guest speaker, Debbie Efkeeman.

**Guest Speaker.** Debbie Efkeeman spoke to the assembly on *Our Family's Journey – All Children Can Learn Including Students with Special Needs*.

**Student Council.** Several representatives from the Student Council appeared before the assembly and shared that they have had a meeting. A report was given on the spring fundraiser and the council's intent to purchase playground equipment with the money.

**Principal's Remarks.** Mr. Stoehr spoke about Red Ribbon week and the many things the committee and guidance has planned. There will be a theme for each of the five days that will be sent out in an email blast by Shelly Belcher. There will also be a drug-free pledge made. Mr. Stoehr reported that the Student Council members have been elected for each grade/ classroom and they have had their first meeting. They have received a quote to purchase playground equipment with the money they raised in the spring.

**Reading and Approval of Minutes.** Rochelle Saxon asked for any corrections to the September 2010 minutes. There were no changes, so the minutes were approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report.** Jodi Hannah presented the Register Report and asked for a motion to pay the outstanding bills. Laura Spernak made a motion to pay the bills and the motion was seconded by Debbie Healy. Jodi also gave an overview of committees that do not bring in revenue to the PTA. She listed the following: After School Dance, After School Happenings, Book fair (money goes to the library), Spirit wear, and the Yearbook.

**First Vice President's Report.** Margaret Rauscher informed the assembly that at the PTA Area Council meeting it was reported that weekend district site visits are occurring to assess items needing repair. The next Area Council meeting will be October 21, 2010 at 9:15 a.m. Margaret thanked Sandy Levin, Maureen Brugger, and all the other volunteers for their work on the Book Fair. She also reiterated that Red Ribbon week will be October 25<sup>th</sup> – October 29<sup>th</sup>, and will be celebrated by theme days and a door decorating contest. Margaret also reminded the assembly that Character Counts week will be observed November 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Second Vice President's Report.** Carol Planitzer reported that membership numbers are good and that there are currently 802 PTA members. She also reminded the assembly that the Reflections contest submissions are due November 4<sup>th</sup> and can be turned in to the bin in the office.

**Third Vice President's Report.** Sherie Lammers thanked Minna Alison for acquiring a great line up of Assemblies for this school year. Assemblies will include such presenters as the National Aviary, Science Center, the Pittsburgh Zoo, and a performance from Louis and Clark. Sherie thanked the Brunch with the Principal coordinators and reported that the 4<sup>th</sup> grade brunch had great attendance from parents. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade brunch is October 15<sup>th</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup> grade brunch is October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Sherie again requested a chair person for the Hospitality committee and offered her assistance to this person. Sherie thanked the Open House volunteers and briefly discussed changes that will occur for next year. The committee will return to home baked cookies and will work to assure enough for all guests.

**Fourth Vice President's Report.** Christine Belfiore asked Lisa Briegel to report on After School Happenings. Lisa reported a great turn out for registration of classes for this year. There will be another registration night December 8<sup>th</sup> for winter classes and possibly an additional Lego class and Sign Language class. Christine reported that the After School Dance program held registration and classes began October 4<sup>th</sup>. The Dance program is still accepting registrations. Christine thanked Robin Ferrari for her work on the Easy Cash committee and shared that Box Top submissions have increased at McMurray. Christine thanked Gina Wells for coordinating school picture day and addressed the logo printed on the pictures by Spellman. The PTA will be looking into this issue. Picture retakes have not been scheduled yet. Christine thanked the Spirit Committee for their work on passing out prizes on the first spirit day and reminded parents that the next spirit day is October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Christine stated that the Yearbook committee has chosen a new yearbook company that will have fewer deadlines and a lower price. She thanked Kristen Bondi for volunteering to be the committee chair and encouraged anyone interested in being on the yearbook committee to contact Kristen. Yearbook orders will be taken after the holidays. Christine asked Mary Pat DeRienzo to report on Teacher Appreciation. Mary Pat asked for volunteers to make food for the teachers and staff on conference day. Anyone interested in participating can contact Mary Pat DeRienzo or Mary Ellen Bruce.

#### **Old Business.**

The Bylaws amendment needed to adjust the membership dues was reviewed by Lisa Briegel and a motion was made by Lisa Anderson to amend the bylaws. The motion was seconded by Mary Pat DeRienzo. The bylaws will be amended.

#### **New Business.**

Lisa Briegel asked for volunteers to participate in a new committee requested by the district. The committee is the Welcome New Families Committee and volunteers will welcome new students and their families to the district throughout the year.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

These minutes were recorded by Rochelle Saxon, Secretary, McMurray PTA.