

Pleasant Hill PTA Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, January 12, 2010
7 p.m.
Number in Attendance: 18 people

I. Welcome

II. President's Report – Margo Ban

- a) New tax exempt letter now in PTA workroom. Won't expire until 2014
- b) Applications due 2/28/2010. for NW Suburban Council Awards—Donna emailed information out to all committee heads. Not many people apply for these. No money associated with awards, but you get recognition for doing a fabulous job.
- c) Illinois PTA convention is 3/11-3/14 in Naperville; see ilpta.org for details. You need your membership card to get in. Mandula will give you one, so just ask her for it if you want to attend. Very good for Ways and Means, assemblies and Fun Fairs-- to get ideas for vendors (Vendor fair is free). If you want to go, talk to Margo or Donna.
- d) Nominating committees:
 - i. For Pleasant Hill PTA: Workshop is this Thurs looking for: co-President, VP-Legislation, co-VP-Membership, and Treasurer.
 - ii. NW Suburban Council Nominating Committee: Joanne and Margo are on committee. Looking for a President, VP Programs (spring fling), Secretary and Treasurer.
- e) Independence Highway: Sex education sponsored by PHD for 7th and 8th grade children and their parents—split by gender and scheduled at each junior high school. Also open to 6th grade parents.
- f) Blood Drives: Plum Grove on 1/27 and Sundling on 3/16. Time is 2:30-8:30 p.m. Their goal is for 5 people from every school to go to attend. You can be a walk-in or you can call Live Source to make an appointment: .877-543-3768. .
- g) Standing Fund Committee: Looking for 3 more members; they only have 2 now. You must be an executive committee member or a teacher. They are going to vote on the formation of this committee at the February 2010 NW Suburban Council meeting The committee is deciding on the parameters of the grants, the application process and who gets the grants.

- III. VP Ways and Means Report: Joanne Wojcik
 - a. January pizza orders are due on Friday, you pick them up the following Friday between 3-4 p.m.
 - b. In December, we sold 59 pizzas and earned \$147.50.
 - c. We'll be selling pizzas every month until the end of the year.

- IV. Treasurer's Report: Kim Radochonski
 - a. As of December 31, 2009, there was a total of \$16, 187.62 in the account..

- V. Teacher Representative Report: Mr. Dano
 - a. The building leadership team, consisting of Matt, Kristy and teachers representing each the different grade levels, decided to focus next week's upcoming teacher institute at the school level rather than attending some of the available district- wide programs.
 - b. Topics will include:
 - i. Learning Management System—an online staff development tool.
 - ii. Smart board training. Teachers are integrating the Smart boards into their classrooms at varying levels. Goal of training is to increase the level of everyone's skills.
 - iii. Mini sessions throughout the day. Will be divided by grade level. K-2 & 3-6.
 - iv. MAP testing: data analysis and goal setting with students. How can we reach a different level with the students—get the students to take the testing seriously and set goals with individual students to improve performance as much as possible.
 - v. Daily 5 (An approach to literacy block). Teachers at some other schools in the district are using it. . The only teacher currently at Pleasant Hill is Ms. Ball (1st grade). Teachers are reviewing the book and DVDs and a teacher from Winston Campus who's currently using Daily 5 will be discussing the approach.

- VI. Principal's Report: Matt Palcer
 - a. Thank you to all the people who helped out on Cocoa & Cookies before Christmas break. This was another reward for good behavior among the students.
 - b. Fundraising: on behalf of the teachers of the Technology Committee. Movie night was held last Friday night. It was very successful: teachers thought it was easy to run (over 85% of the staff members helped out) and the kids really liked it. Parents were also pleased with it (and some are requesting a double feature the next time we do it). The fundraiser was held to raise money for replacement light bulbs for the smart board projectors (which cost \$200 each). The technology fund balance was down to \$100—and after the movie night, the balance is now \$1,200. The technology team may organize another fundraiser in the spring. Matt will talk to teachers about their needs/ wants.
 - c. Technology team plans to donate a percentage of the money that has been raised so far to the District 15 Foundation.

- d. In the next 2-3 weeks, Pleasant Hill will begin hosting an ECDEC class which consists of at-risk 3-4 year olds (defined as developmentally behind six-months or more). This is a state-sponsored head-start program. The old kindergarten room (second computer lab) will be dedicated to this class.
- e. Last week, MAP results were sent home. Matt sent letter to parents to emphasize the important of the testing and how the testing works. (Letter with links is attached to this report). Information in letter includes:
 - What are students being tested on? What do the results mean?
 - 2 links for student practice: both math and reading practice tests
 Beginning at next week's institute, the emphasis will be to really look at the scores critically--determine why certain kids are not reaching adequate progress. For kids who may be not progressing as a result of "attitude" issues, Matt and Kristy will be doing some one-on-one discussions with the students to make sure they're doing their best work.

VII. Cougar Carnival: Colleen Novak

- a. Information went out in backpacks. Need a lot of volunteers. Contact Donna if you want to help out.
- b. Subway sandwiches are the only items which need to be preordered. You may also preorder tickets at a reduced rate.
- c. Game tickets can be purchased the day of.—as well as chips, soda, blizzards, cotton candy.
- d. Will have the cake walk again—no theme this year.
- e. Bus will be shuttling people from Birchwood parking lot to back entrance of the school. To encourage people to take the bus, every family who rides the bus will be entered in a raffle.

VIII. Cultural Arts: Carol Hansen

- a. Going to take the kids to various Metropolis shows—in February and April. All performances are at 9:45 a.m.. District is proving the transportation. Will need chaperones for the outings.

IX. Environmental Education: Kristen Berryhill

- a. Waste free lunch every month. Looking for volunteers for 5th and 6th grade period. December: Ms. Marks had 100% participation. January: Ms. Ball's class had 100% participation.
- b. Still collecting used gym shoes and cell phones for recycling.
- c. Going to be filming a number of 15-30 second Public Service Announcements done by the kids.

X. Make A Difference Club: Margo Ban (reporting for Judy Benka)

- a. Pleasant Hill cookbook project. Would like four parents to serve on the committee. Check with Judy (JudyBenka@yahoo.com) for more details.
- b. As a side note, Joanne Wojcik volunteered to do Treats for Troops next year.

XI. Multicultural Festival Committee: Rita Poklacki

- a. Scheduled for Friday, April 9th: Will start at 5:30 p.m. (not 6 p.m., as reported in most recent newsletter). Trying to get some sort of music—perhaps having the AV club involved.
- b. Currently have 6 countries represented: India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico and Poland. Looking for one more: perhaps Greece, Ireland, England.
- c. People have expressed an interest in United States of America as a booth. They need someone to head this country up.
- d. Passport will be \$5 (for the food); activities will be free.

XII. Plum Grove Update: Margo Ban

- a. Starting a Rainbow group—small group setting for discussing grief. Usually relating to divorce or death.
- b. Looking for people to be on their PTA.
- c. WOW day sponsored by Bill and Jennifer Chamberlain. They bring in parents to speak about their careers.

XIII. Reflections: Colleen Novak

- a. Six Pleasant Hill students went on to District 37 level. Of those, 4 went on to State (only 69 entries went on to State). A great success! Matt will do a special televised announcement during the day.
- b. Over 1400 kids entered!

XIV. Superintendent's Report: Margo Ban

- a. District did not have to borrow any funds—State came through at the last minute to make payrolls.
- b. District recently filed their waiver to hold PE everyday.
- c. Will discuss recess at upcoming BOE (Board of Education) meeting. Currently, time is determined by the Principle at each school—varies from school to school (not standard in the district). Every student has 1 hour for lunch. Some schools are 20 recess/20 lunch/20 recess. Or 20 recess/20 lunch/20 AR. Or some are like us: 30 lunch/30 recess.

XV. Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 a.m.