

Pleasant Hill PTA Meeting
Tuesday, November 10, 2009
7 p.m.
22 people in attendance

I. Welcome: Margo Ban

II. Treasurer's Report: Kim Radochonski

1. Made first state/national PTA membership payment in September of \$856.00. End of last year: 632 members vs. 499 current members. Mr. Palcer reminded us that we are down 35 families from last year. Another deposit will be made on December. We also won an award from District 37 for increasing our membership by 2% last year.
2. Teacher PTA reimbursements should be in by December 1, 2009
3. Treasurer's Report full attached.

Chris Menk: Box top and candle products.
Brochure new stuff: 200 bonus points. Everyone take the coupons

First coupons sent in: \$869 will be coming in December.
Could use the money to purchase more cameras for the teachers to check out to take pictures for the yearbook.

III. Teacher Reps

Currently having workshops in school to learn more about how to utilize the smartboard in the classroom. Teachers are also busy preparing for parent/teacher conferences and report cards —as well as MAP testing.

IV. President's Report: Margo Ban and Donna Hirsch

1. The Pleasant Hill PTA won an award for increased membership last year.
2. H1N1 Update:
Vaccinations for District 15 Rolling Meadows schools are being pushed back to January. Cook County did not give an explanation as to why they were being moved. The district is still planning on having vaccinations for Hoffman Estate schools in mid-December.

Students at Pleasant Hill who missed the vaccine and still want to be vaccinated can go to another District 15 school in Hoffman Estates and Rolling Meadows when they are administered.

County is not planning on doing anything for the booster shots for the younger kids.

Everything went very smoothly in Palatine schools. Three main reasons why the District was selected as the first school to administer the vaccinations: 1) District is well organized, 2) We have a strong volunteer base; and 3) we're one of the largest school districts in the county. Approximately 6,000 students were vaccinated.

3. Pizza Sales
Will be starting to sell pizzas in December to benefit the District 15 Foundation and Pleasant Hill PTA. Delivery date will be December 18th (last day before Winter break). This month, Virginia Lake piloted the program and the process went very well.
4. Update on the \$11,000 standing fund at the NW Suburban PTA Council.

This money was originally raised to reimburse teachers for taking classes. However, the program was discontinued a while ago and a different use for the funds has been discussed for quite some time. A final decision was made to form a committee to disperse the funds through grants. The committee will consist of 5 people: 1 teacher and 4 PTA member. The PTA members must be an executive committee member of their school's PTA. If more than 5 people volunteer to be on the committee, names will be drawn to make final selections.

The committee will determine the parameters for grants, communicate the application process and assess and disperse the grants. The grant applications can come from PTA members or district teachers.

Volunteers for the committee will be submitted in December, with the committee being selected in January. Criteria for the grants will be determined in February, and the deadline for the grant applications will be in April. Depending on the nature of the grant request, there is a possibility that the District 15 Foundation might match the grant funds.

5. Nominating Committee:
Still need more volunteers for the Pleasant Hill PTA nominating committee. Need representation from parents of students in any grade other than 3rd (already 3 parents of 3rd graders on the committee).

V. Principal's Report: Matt Palcer

1. Really appreciative of all the volunteers. Special thanks to:
 - Colleen Novak for Fall Fest.
 - Colleen Novak and Chris Barto for the Reflections contest and artwork display
 - Donna Hirsh and Margo Ban: Coordinating all the H1N1 process. .
 - Donna Hirsch, Carolyn and Joanne Wojcik: District dinner.
 - Jud Benka: Make a Difference Club: Book Fair, Treats for Troops.
 - Melissa Larson: Coffee and treats for Special Persons day.
 - Penny Schmit Pie toss!
2. Board of Education Goals established 4 major goals at their last meeting (see attachment for goals)

Goal #1: Meeting AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) on MAP testing

This will involve a slight change in priorities from our current testing priorities. Instead of ISAT (which measure children's ability to meet a standard, we'll be focusing more on MAP testing needs (which measures an individual child's growth throughout the year. We'll be measuring growth from fall to spring, with the emphasis on reading.

This represents a cultural change—but not an instructional change. Will likely require Pleasant Hill to change how MAP testing is scheduled and teachers may be doing some goal-setting for kids after the winter testing to prep for the spring testing. May also try to have some active proctoring of the exam—to really monitor how the kids are taking the tests and that they're taking them seriously. .

Pleasant Hill was recognized as 17th in the State of Illinois & 1st in District 15!

Goal #2: Develop a Long-range Facilities Plan

This goal focused in two areas 1) review and plan for the actual physical structure (roof replacement plan for each school in the district, curtain walls (exterior walls), carpeting, etc.) and 2) evaluation of the physical spaces and their impact on curriculum/learning.

Goal #3: Build a Strong Administrative Team

Merit based pay and improved administrator retention.

Goal #4 Update Technology

A number of schools in the district are far behind Pleasant Hill from a technology perspective. District will also be updating their antiquated Student Information System (SYS)—which is a DOS-based system.

One area of improvement that will have an immediate impact on Pleasant Hill is the increase of the band width. The current band width into the school is 3 gig. The District is currently working with AT&T to increase to 100 gig band width. This will greatly increase the technology capabilities within the school. This should be implemented by the beginning of next year.

3. Superintendent's Goals

- Demonstrate greater presence:
- Implement a Merit Salary Plan for administrators. Setting and reaching goals will determine pay.
- Improve administrator morale
- Improved communication with Board of Education: Give an update of what's going on in each of the schools.
- Establish positive relationships with the unions.
- Address transportation issues.

4. Pleasant Hill's Goals

- MAP testing.
- Writing performance: 6 traits of writing. Implementing in a consistent manner from grade to grade.
- Student Behavior: Kristy Seifert is working on this. Examples include the positive behavior celebrations throughout the year—to recognize and reward positive behavior. 98-99%% of kids are participating in the positive behavior celebrations.
- Technology: Move past basic skills for better implementation of the technology in the classroom
- Promote green culture: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

5. Lock Down Drill

Some time this week there will a lock down drill which will be different than in years past. This time, the police have stressed that the test should not be scheduled, so you have a truer test of what would happen in a real emergency

6. Questions/Issues from PTA membership:

A number of former Pleasant Hill students are having difficulty at Plum Grove Junior High School English classes because of a perceived lack of mastery of grammar and punctuation. Mr. Palcer said that this is a district issue and that he will look into why there is a disconnect between what is being emphasized in grades 1-6 (good writing versus diagramming sentences.) Currently, our curriculum focuses on the building blocks of being a strong writer--focusing on ideas, support and organization—not so much on grammar and punctuation.

The issues that have emerged from pulling the paper fliers out of the backpacks—and the impact the move has had on membership in organizations like the Boy Scouts. Discussed ways that the electronic fliers could be pushed out instead of relying on parents to go out to the website to check for new fliers.

VI. Committee Reports

1. Ways and Means: Joann Wojcik: All the prizes for the Fun Run were shipped and should be here this week.

2. Book Fair: Was a great success. Brought in \$14,396.57 total– with nearly \$5,000 going directly to the library to purchase new materials, including another set of encyclopedias. The students brought spare-change in for Book Angels and collected \$1587.59. These books will go to children who are disadvantaged and can improve their libraries.
3. Health and Safety: Just Girls program went well with 22 5th grade girls in attendance. This Thursday night is the first-ever boys event. 20 out of the 94 5th grade boys are registered to attend.
4. Holiday Shop: Sherri Lamerand. Scheduled for December 10th. If you have any suggestions, please let Sherry know.

VII. Adjournment: 8:45 p.m.

Dates to Remember:

November:

Thursday, 11/5	Just Girls (5th grade girls event)
Tuesday, 11/10/09	PTA Meeting
Wednesday, 11/11	Special Person's Day
Mon/Tues: 11/23-24	Parent-Teacher Conferences/No School
Wed, 11/25	No School
Thursday, 11/26	Thanksgiving Day (yummy!)
Friday, 11/27	No School
Monday, 11/28	MAP Testing begins

December

Thursday, 12/3	Grades 5/6 musical
Tuesday, 12/8	Intermediate Band Concert, 7 p.m.
Thursday, 12/10	Holiday Shop, 3:30-7 p.m.

Attachments: Treasurer's Report and Community Consolidated School District 15 District Goals.