

**PTA Meeting Minutes**

**March 9, 2010**

**Welcome:**

**PTA Presidents: Margo Ban & Donna Hirsch**

**President's Report**

- 2010 – 2011 Nominations for Officers

Thank you to those who served on the nomination committee.

- Co-President: Sherri Lamerand
  - 1<sup>st</sup> VP Legislation: James Carr
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Membership: Elizabeth Barker
  - Treasurer: Wendi Raker
- 2010 – 2011 Committee Chairs. Sign-up list was passed around to fill positions for PTA. Some positions are really needed! Please consider signing up to chair a committee or even assist in one.
- District News: Board of Education Meeting tomorrow night! March 10, 2010. 7:00 pm Sundling Junior High.
  - Assistant Superintendent for Business Position. Board of Education Meeting tomorrow night. A male candidate from Michigan is expected to be approved for the position tomorrow night at the meeting. He has an extensive background in unit district/ school business and finance.
  - District Expenditure Reductions. Reductions should not affect the classrooms next year. (2010-2011) However, it may affect them the following year. (2011-2012) The Board of Education will also look at programs and other contracts. (transportation, teachers) Another money saving option is refinancing some of the district loans. Buildings, population, food service are among a long list of where we can save money. The district may hire an outside consultant to look at our expenditures to reevaluate where we are spending our money and how we can save money via hiring an Educational Facility Planner/ Consultant.
  - Action alert: The IL PTA is asking members to contact the Governor to pass the bill to increase financing to the PTA. You can contact Governor Quinn and your local State Representatives via email. (See attachment)
  - Some Principal and Assistant Principal openings within the district. Principal opening at Virginia Lake. Superintendent would like to look internally first, trying to retain the people they have.
- NWSC
  - PTA convention 3/12 – 3/14. Vendor Fair open to all PTA members with a card. Takes place in Naperville. Must have your PTA card to get in for free. Contact Manjula Sriram to obtain your PTA membership card. Hospitality suite there also. It is upstairs at the hotel in room 669. It is for District 37 PTA members. Feel free to stop by!
  - Spring Fling 5/17: (Was originally called School of Information Night.) It has a mini vendor fair at entrance. Installation of officers will occur that

## Pleasant Hill PTA Meeting Agenda

March 9, 2010 – 7:00pm

---

night. Dinner is provided. Every school is asked to donate \$20 of “stuff” for a gift basket to be raffled that night .

If you would like to attend please let Margo Ban or Donna Hirsch know.

- Reflections – 5 projects from District 37 went as honorable mentions to the National event. Yay!
- New Officers – Installation will be the end of May. Training sessions are offered in June (dates to follow) If you are in an officer position, you need to have training. (Treasure, Membership, President, Legislation)

### **Treasurer’s Report**

Total balance on hand in checking: \$ 12,013.71. Total balance on hand in savings: \$ 5,271.98. What are the “right” things we should be spending our money on? We will take a look at that in coming meetings. Keep in mind, this is what “Plans of Work” are intended for.

### **Teacher Representatives: Mrs. Harms**

ISAT’s are finally over! Sherri Thomas (social worker at PH) wanted to thank everyone who volunteers at the game station during lunchtime!!

Kindergarten- learning about seasons, adding, subtracting, “Pleasant Hill Pals” show was a success! Kids enjoyed it!

A field trip coming up for K- 2 going to Metropolis for a play.

Grade 1- money, balance & motion, writing.

Grade 2- Insects and writing.

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade musical will take place this Thursday at 2:15 pm and 7:00 pm.

Grade 3/4- Electricity fair coming up. Working with clay to make flour relief maps.

Grade 5 & 6 Working on extended response & working hard on ISAT’s.

### **Principal’s Report: Matt Palcer**

Thank you, Lora Lewis for the great roller skating party! Fun was had by all.

Lock down drills to promote safety are important!! We are doing one this spring. It will be unannounced and by surprise. We are also going to do it at an unstructured time! Maybe during lunch, recess, during changing of classes.

A police officer came in to school and identified places where kids can go to be safe if they are not in a classroom at the time of a lockdown. (in the cafeteria for example)

Every room is equipped with a red binder with keys to lock down doors.

The drill will be in April or May. We are trying to create an authentic drill.

The district is asking schools to invest in an air horn because it is very loud and can be heard during loud times of the day. (lunch period...recess)

ISAT season- we are on the tail end and wrapping things up! ☺ Kids are working really hard, kids are awesome.

Teachers completed a survey...”how are things going”? (things at school, in the district, with your principal...) Something came back as a concern here at PH. We were ranked #13 out of 20 schools in the district regarding how safe teachers feel in the building. Why do teachers feel unsafe? There are a lot of parent volunteers and

## Pleasant Hill PTA Meeting Agenda

March 9, 2010 – 7:00pm

entrances / exits that sometimes present a challenge. PLEASE ...ALWAYS go through the front door and you must sign in at the office. Please don't hang around the hallways. If you are volunteering, make it just that. We need this school to be as safe as possible! There will be a stronger emphasis on safety here.

Sectioning: we had an additional 13 kids register for incoming 1<sup>st</sup> Grade. We can keep all 1<sup>st</sup> Grade teachers next year!! Yay! We will keep 3/4<sup>th</sup> Multi-age grades for next year too. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders will loop with their current teachers. Studies show that there are many benefits to keeping the same teachers. A letter will come home after spring break confirming your desire to have your child loop. Matt believes this will be good for the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and teachers.

Kindergarten- open registration this year: 55 kids registered so far. Looks like we will have 3 sections next year. Full-day bilingual kindergarten will most likely continue for next year. We may have 2 sections for bilingual because we already have 30 kids registered thus far. Space issues will be addressed.

Open House coming up! We will have an informational meeting before and after open house to address any concerns any incoming 3<sup>rd</sup> grade parents have for next year.

### Committee Reports

- Roller-skating – feedback: Fun...good...no more races...Have more people work check-out line to pick up rented skates. It took a long time! Maybe do a food drive that night.
- Multi-Cultural Event- 12 Culture groups! Next Wednesday, the forms for the passports will go home to parents. \$5 per passport. Looking to sell approx. 450 passports. Getting restaurants to donate gift cards. If you purchase a passport, you will go into a raffle to win one of these restaurant certificates. Looking for 15 to 20 more volunteers. Please contact Rita Poklacki or Yukari Lofton. It is from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. (not 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm) It is printed incorrectly in the PTA calendar.

Margo's Movie trivia- Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure! From 1988!! Go 80's!!

Meeting adjourned: 8:08 pm

### Dates to Remember:

3/10 – Board of Education at 7:00pm at Sundling Junior High

3/11 – Grades 1 & 2 Musical at 7:00pm

3/12 – Report Cards for Grades 1-6

3/12 to 3/14 – PTA Convention in Naperville

3/22 – 3/26 – Spring Break!

4/2 – No School

4/8 – Kindergarten Rec Night at 7:00pm

4/9 – Multi-Cultural Fest 6:00pm – 8:00pm

4/13- Next PTA Meeting 7:00 pm