



## PTA Meeting

Tuesday April 1, 2014

In Attendance: Michele Tregoning, Lori Marshall, Lori Andrus, Shobha Rajan, Lee Derby, Spencer Delisle, Karina Hirschhorn, Jen Coakley, Kristie Scott, Lauren Birrer, Erin Prange, Laurie Whitney, Amanda Parsad, Romain Parsad, Anita Young, Amy Hoffacker.

### 7:00 - 7:05 pm **Call to order and Welcome- President's Report—Michele Tregoning, PTA President.**

- Welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- The Principal of Wilson Wims ES, Mr. Sean McGee, was not able to join us today due to a family emergency. We have a message from him which is on our school web site as well as in Mr. Derby's newsletter, and in the Bear Facts.
- February meeting minutes were approved.

### **Correspondence/Secretary's Report—Shobha Rajan**

- We received a wonderful note from the 4<sup>th</sup> grade team thanking the PTA for the delicious dessert buffet that made their day a little sweeter.
- We also received notes from Mrs. Gordon thanking the PTA for the Read-a-thon and Reading night.
- The notes were passed around for everyone present to read.

### **The Treasurer's Report—Lori Marshall**

- Copies of the budget were available.
- We made a deposit for the December Bingo Night.
- We made a small amount from Spirit wear.
- We spent some money to buy MSA incentives.
- We wrote checks for Field trip supplements.
- Wrote a check for Mrs. Eschelmann who bought a lot of music and a keyboard.
- Staff fund increased by \$200.
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade t-shirts were purchased.
- Will write a check for the Board of Education dinner.

### **7:35 – 7:50 Staff Liaison Report – Karina Hirschhorn**

- We need more parent volunteers to come to our Career Day, which is on April 28<sup>th</sup>, to spend time with our 5<sup>th</sup> graders and help them explore their careers.
- Field day is coming up and Mr. Jansson needs parent volunteers to help with the various stations.
  - Gr 2 and 3 – Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 - 11:30 am
  - Gr 4 and 5 – Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> all day
  - Gr K and 1- Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 11:30 am.

- Please contact Mr. Jansson if you will be able to volunteer. No rains days.
- Reading Night was amazing this year. Thanks to the incredible effort by Mrs. Tregoning and her group of 4 or 5 volunteers.
- The desserts lunch was wonderful.
- Bingo night was so good, the staff had a wonderful time and they kept talking about it for days after the event.
- Earth day is coming up on April 27<sup>th</sup>. We are going to be having a petting zoo, face painting, sports equipment swap, henna table, sneakers repurpose, art table and a lot more fun activities. There is an Earth Day page linked to the school's Web site for more information. We are looking for someone to do the book swap and also we need lots of volunteers to run the various stations.
- We are still not sure of Kids Co shuttle service as it is a Sunday. We need ideas to see how we can manage the parking issues.
- We might be getting a few people volunteering from Kohl's, so we might get some funds from them.

### **7:50 – 8 pm Principal's report**

- We are meeting after almost 2 months, due to the weather.
- During these 2 months we have had different kinds of testing going on. We have just wrapped up MSA.
- We debuted PARCC in Mrs. Birrer's class, it was online testing. Next year all tests are online.
  - It was good to have field tests this year so it gives us an idea to be prepared to give this testing for grades 3, 4 and 5.
- Board of Ed dinner with our Clarksburg cluster was last Monday after being postponed due to the snow days. It was very informal and each school had a display board. Our school display board was very nice thanks to Michele for working on it.
- They wanted to hear what's going on in our Clarksburg cluster and we spoke to them about being overcrowded.
- Due to the many snow days we have had, we might have the school year extended. The initial request MCPS submitted for a possible waiver was rejected, as we were not trying to make up any of the snow days. We can reapply if we suggest we could work on Easter Monday (April 21). Dr. Starr has not made the decision if we would reapply.
- In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter we have lost many days of instruction so it will affect a small number of report cards as teachers were not able to cover a few topics or were not able to assess the child in a few areas.
  - If it is affecting your child's class the teachers will send a letter explaining it.
- Clarksburg cluster is going to testify about the operating budget on April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Would like to publicly apologize for the error in having 2 fundraisers at the same time. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade fundraiser started on the same day as Read-a-thon. Will make sure it does not happen going forward.
- The Dessert bar was wonderful.
- The Bear Facts has a blurb in it from Mrs. Jackson asking for parents to volunteer to play some instruments. It would be really nice if we could get some parent volunteers.
- Jansson's park starts next week. Last year we had indoor and outdoor activities.

- We are talking to the Principal of Wilson Wims ES about transition. We will lose around 135 students. It turns out with the way our class sizes are that we will be losing only few teachers compared to what we initially expected.
- Today was the deadline for making the change of school request, we have received a few applications.
- Mrs. Prange will be leaving our school next year as she is going to Wims.
- The decision about bell times is not known yet. If decided it might be implemented only in 2015-2016 school year.

## 8- 8:15 **Committee Reports**

**Bingo night (Amy Hoffacker):** The March Bingo night was a little more popular. We had close to 200 people. Thanks to our "Celebrity" Bingo Callers -- Mrs. Birrer, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Jansson, Ms. Mayberry, and Mr. Moxley -- the students loved having their teachers there. We made a profit of \$400. Thanks to all the volunteers, as well. A suggestion for next year is that if we are going to have 2 Bingo nights not to have one in between Thanksgiving and the holidays.

**Read-a-Thon (Michele Tregoning):** We are in the middle of Read-a-Thon and we have 556 students participating, which is 75% of the school. We are still giving out prizes for halfway goal. The students are going to be collecting many more charms for meeting their goal and for turning in money by April 8<sup>th</sup>. Next Friday is the prize drawings. Thanks to the teachers for supporting the Read-a-Thon.

**Reading night (Michele Tregoning):** Reading night was fantastic as the rooms were crowded, we hope everyone had fun. Thanks to all the staff who were our readers: Mrs. Birrer, Ms. Cromwell, Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Gross, Mrs. Hirschhorn, Mr. Moxley, Mrs. Prange, Mr. Sefcik, Ms. Thurn, and Mrs. Troup.

**Nominating Committee (Jen Coakley):** We have been sending emails to lot of parents who have been nominated and most of them have not accepted the nominations. The board election will be held in the June meeting and we have to send the survey before Spring break.

## 8:15- 8:20 **Old and New Business**

- The Steven Turner scholarship forms will be coming out soon.
- Laurie Whitney accepted to handle the 5<sup>th</sup> grade middle school attire gift this year as she has done in previous years. It was approved to do the Rocky Hill MS Spirit wear this year.
- We have submitted our bylaws for approval.
- The next cultural arts assembly is a show by Billy B- Recycle Mania and it will be on Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, it is going to be in line with our Earth day celebrations. Billy B is extremely popular and hard to get.
  - The music and dance shows were too expensive.
  - The other Cultural Arts assembly will be a science show and it will be held in May.
  - We need to know how much the musical shows cost so that we can take care of it in the summer budget meeting.
- A parent brought up the concern that the Spirit night communication was coming home late, sometimes just the day of the event and that it was hard to plan to attend. She suggested that the flyers be sent home earlier, but it was explained to her the restaurants confirms the event

only 48 hours prior. So it is really not possible to send information in advance.

- We have 3 chairs for the family picnic and so it is going to be held on May 30<sup>th</sup>. There is no change in the book fair dates.
- A suggestion to send out a Connect Ed message on Sunday with all the events coming up that week was brought up.
- Amy Hoffacker wanted to confirm if we could do the Joe Corbi again or if we would like to change it. It was decided that we will continue with Joe Corbi.

8:30pm Mrs. Tregoning adjourned the meeting.