

MINUTES

1. Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. Welcome – Mary Perkowitz

2. Roll Call taken from Sign-In – Melinda Armbruster

Present: Anderson, Armbruster, Bertrand, Burke, Gates, Gwost, Johnson, Keller, McCurley, Perkowitz, Shapiro, Slaughter, Smith, Tassi, Theys-Dice.

3. Approval of Past Minutes – Melinda Armbruster

Motion to approve the May 2009 minutes was made by: Michelle Gates

Seconded by: Jim Burke

Motion carried.

4. Presidents' Report – Mary Perkowitz/Sandy Tassi

A. PTO presidents meeting –

1 – H1N1 Preparedness – Please check out the district's website for valuable information.

2 – Special Needs Support Network – Mary introduced how this group offers referrals and a network of support for parents of special needs children. Beth Hardig added that the group meets a couple times each month. Our PTO is being asked to donate \$100. We'll be requiring this, and other requests for donation, to be supported by a budget breakdown to see where our donation goes.

3 – Parents' concerns about kids with food allergies at after-school activities. We must be diligent here too.

4 – Uniformity of education – The district is working on this across classrooms and the district.

5 – Target rebate checks – Some principals of other schools wanting the checks to come through the school, not the PTO. This way they could spend them without getting PTO approval first. This was started by the PTO at Seth Paine. Mr. Shapiro and the PTO agree on the spending of these checks, so no problem with it going through the PTO. Dr. Egan is leaving it up to each individual school.

B. Mary got a thank-you from the district's technology director for the PTO's implementation of technology at Seth Paine.

C. Sandy's Thank-Yous: Colleen Bertrand for Bingo Night, Michelle Gates and her crew for Revolutionary War Day, Sue Ehrhardt and crew for stepping up to fill in for Jennifer Haidu and keep the Market Day sale going.

D. Buzz Book – Sandy apologized on behalf of the PTO if anyone was upset over the printing of email addresses. We printed the information as it was given to us. But, as a reminder, these email addresses are ONLY for school-related use. Any other uses are prohibited.

E. "Our Family Magazine" – Mary mentioned that we could consider using this free service for advertising events which are not held at the school.

5. Principal's Report – Cameron Shapiro

- **ISAT scores/Map Scores**—As you all should be aware, ISAT/MAP scores came home last week. Please check with your children if you have not received those scores.

Building Performance

Reading - 86% of our students were meeting or exceeding standards

Math - 95% of our students were meeting or exceeding standards

Science – 96% of our students were meeting or exceeding standards (4th)

3rd gr. Writing – 56.7% of our students were meeting or exceeding standards (62% state)

5th gr. Writing – 76.9% of our students were meeting or exceeding standards (54% state)

School Improvement Goals – Seth Paine's goals this year will be based on the district mission which in short, creating continuous learners who are responsible, caring citizens in a global society. To do that we will be focusing on literacy and mathematics this year. Our SIP team is meeting monthly to analyze data from our ISAT and MAP scores while focusing on our internal building programs and curriculum to see what can/should be done to best meet the need of our children.

• **Important dates in Oct.**

i. Monday, Oct. 12—Columbus day (No school)

ii. Tuesday, Oct. 20th—Early Release

iii. Friday, Oct. 30 – No school (Institute Day)

- **Paper Usage** – We have a usage form that is in the copy room designated for PTO. According to that, as well as the count on the copiers, the current total for PTO is approximately 26,000 copies. That equates to about 4 boxes of paper = \$120-\$150

• **After-School Programs**—

b. **FITS** – 4/5th grades only (3rd grade- 3rd trimester)

c. **Chess Club** – Open to all (starting Oct. 19th) Flyers available soon

- **Library Program** - The ELA library is offering “Check out a Museum”. See the flyer or ask the ELA Library librarian for more details

6. Treasurer’s Report – Sue McCurley

Sue mentioned that not much has happened yet this year. We did get a Target rebate for almost \$400. Rev. War Day paid the individual performers, misc. expenses still coming in. For planning next year’s budget, Krystin Zoibi has suggested singing now with SchoolKidz for an additional 2% savings. The teachers voiced some concerns over the product’s quality, so we won’t sign until we price out name brand items in the kits.

Motion to approve Report: Jim Burke

Seconded by: Beth Slaughter

Motion carried.

6. Teachers’ Report – Colleen Johnson and Nancy Gwost

- Mrs. Johnson says that she is SO grateful every day for the technology that this PTO has helped buy for her classroom.
- Ms. Wagner would still like to do the Dragon Dash for Cash if any parent is able to take the lead.
- Jan Boden would still like to hold Celebrity Reader Days if any parent is able to take the lead.
- Alice Troyer needs parents to volunteer to reshelve materials in the Library.
- Mrs. Gwost says that Bingo Night was wonderful! Seeing so many families a real treat.
- Teacher’s voiced some concern over the quality of the products in supply kits, look into name brands.

7. Freaky Friday/Spooky Saturday – no report

There was some question about the hours for Saturday’s (10/17/09) event. Will check with Amy O’Connor.

8. Environment/Beautification – Melinda Armbruster

Fall Cleanup set for Sunday, October 18th, from 9am-noonish. We need all the helpers we can get to rake leaves, bag apples in the courtyard, plant hostas, etc. The High School Honor Society has agreed to participate.

9. Cultural Arts – Sandy Tassi/Colleen Bertrand

We’re working on this currently.

10. Family Events – Colleen Bertrand

Bingo Night had about 235 people. We’re in the process of scheduling restaurant nights.

11. Innisbrook - no report

Extended until Friday, October 9th.

12. Entertainment Books – Beth Slaughter

Sale is over. We need the books back, or payment for the books. Still missing about 74 books.

13. Book Fair – Beth Slaughter

Will be held the week of November 9th during school hours and at parent-teacher conferences. Looking for volunteers to set up, staff the sale, and take down on Friday.

14. Old Business

Beth Slaughter – Butter Braids as a fundraiser? Decided to bring up again in the Spring.

15. New Business:

Jonie’s Closet – Mary Perkowitz. This program similar to Helping Hands except that it gets corporate sponsorship. Jonie’s Closet would like this to be a district wide project and is looking for a parent liaison to work with them and the school social worker. Mary will do this for now until someone volunteers. (Beth Hartig has agreed to be the liaison to Joanie’s Closet for Seth Paine.)

Parent Involvement – Debbie Keller/Sandy Tassi. How do we get more of Seth Paine’s parents involved?

Sandy will get the mentor calls to new families going. We definitely need positions filled for next year. All Seth Paine parents are automatically members of the PTO and are encouraged to participate!

19. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Dana Anderson

Seconded: Debbie Keller

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Melinda Armbruster