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## PTO Meeting - Minutes September 10, 2008

Board Member Attendance - Sara Frisk, Kathy Bonitz, Lynn Roscoe and Tara Ford

- 1) Many new families attended. Be sure that everyone signs in and lists their children(s) names to be entered for the year end drawing. Two suggestions for the prize are: school supplies for the following year or a scooter. Sara asked the general members what their thoughts were. No comment was made.
- 2) Sara went over the 2007-2008 PTO accomplishments: a detail list can be provided upon request.
- 3) Top 10 Reasons to get involved in PTO:
  10. It's a great way to meet other families with children the same age as your own
  9. You will become a greater part of your children's early learning experiences!
  8. To help raise money for a great cause - your children's education!
  7. Get to know the Teacher's at Pennock and to understand their needs and ideas.
  6. It's one more way to meet and talk with your PTO Board, and hear about new and exciting changes happening at Pennock
  5. You can create, plan and execute fun events for the whole family!
  4. It's an hour or so off each month from your hectic household routine - and we provide dinner and childcare!
  3. Camaraderie
  2. Experience the feeling of self worth through volunteering your time and seeing your efforts pay off in the smile of your children and their friends.
  1. And finally, the number one reason to join us.... **WE NEED YOU!**
- 4) Goals of the PTO for the 2008-2009 school year:
  - a) Profit \$30k from the cookie dough/discount card fundraiser
  - b) Have student presentations, instead of teacher presentations, during general meetings beginning with 5<sup>th</sup> grade in October. Fifth will talk about their Ameritowne Experience.
  - c) Showcase an "Outstanding Parent of the Month". Teachers will nominate parents who go above and beyond for their school. The parent will have a write up in the monthly newsletter, receive a gift bag and be showcased on the PTO bulletin board.
- 5) Fundraiser - the cookie dough/discount card fundraiser ended September 9<sup>th</sup>. Forms are being accepted through September 12<sup>th</sup>. The PTO board will be counting on September 13<sup>th</sup>. The PTO is looking for volunteers to help on the distribution day - October 2<sup>nd</sup> and to help chaperone the Limo Lunch/Thunderbash day on October 10<sup>th</sup>.
- 6) Spaghetti Dinner/Bingo Night is scheduled for Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30PM. Kathy already has over 150 RSVP. With such a large turnout the festivities will be moved to the gym with the food line in the cafeteria. Kathy has purchased 40 lbs of pasta and has asked for volunteers to help cook it. Val suggested we ask Terri from the kitchen staff if we could use their burner and large pot to reheat the pasta prior to serving. Kathy will talk to her in the morning. (Note: Terri said it was ok for us to use the equipment). Anthony's Pizza will be donating 10 gallons of pasta sauce for the event. Over 20 prize donations have been given by the Pennock community. Candy, popcorn and extra sodas will be available for sale.
- 7) Box Tops/Campbell Soup Labels - Judy Westphal will continue to head this committee as she has done in the past several years. For each box top, the school receives \$.10. Last year, the PTO made over \$1500 from box tops. For each soup label, points are given in which items can be purchased from a catalog. The goal is accumulate 13,000 points to purchase a wireless headset microphone. Pennock currently has 10,000 points. Campbell's will also give 500 additional points for any community event that Pennock participates in.

- 8) Trick or Treat Street/Haunted Hallways – Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. 6:30-8:30PM. We would like to have the 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade hallways turned into haunted hallways. In order to make this happen, we need at least 10 families dedicated to set up a haunted area. Games will still take place in the gym with candy as the prize giveaways. Food sales and the salsa contest will take place in the gym. Ghost stories in the library and the Graveyard walk in the music room. Sara will be holding the first meeting Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 7PM in the cafeteria. PTO is also looking at ideas for this year's entry fee donation. Kohl's will also make a donation of \$500 for the event if 5 Kohl's employees sign up to volunteer their time for the event.
- 9) Holiday Bazaar - Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:30PM. The PTO is looking for people who have homemade/handmade crafts to sign up for a table and sell their items. Tables are \$25.00. The Santa shop will be in the library, cookies and hot chocolate to be sold in the kitchen and possible pictures with Santa.
- 10) Enhancement Committee – Jennifer Qualteri will be working with Val and the grounds super on enhancing the overall grounds. Val mentioned that there are only 5 groundskeepers for all of the schools. There is a new head groundskeeper who is working on plans for the school.
- 11) Bulletin Board Committee – Mrs. Gardner volunteered to head up updating the bulletin board.
- 12) Grant Committee – Tara will be submitting our grant request to Lowes next week. The PTO is hoping to receive a grant to install a permanent shed as the current one has been broken into twice and is now leaking. Val mentioned that there is now a security camera on the shed area along with a security light.
- 13) Outreach Committee – PTO is looking for a volunteer to head up the Outreach Committee. This committee looks for way support the surrounding committee.
- 14) Recycling Committee – PTO is looking for a volunteer to head up the recycling committee. We currently are recycling ink cartridges and cell phones. The cell phones give a soldier 1 hours of talk time per cell phone donated. We are looking for a new company to recycle the ink cartridges as the current one is not worth the time put in.
- 15) Spring Fling, May 5, 2009 – more information to come in the future.
- 16) Spirit Nights – The PTO will be having a Spirit Night at Chick-fil-A, Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> and one at Applebee's, Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>.

General Member comments:

- 1) Rich Melady talked about having a St. Baldericks event. We would work with the fire and police departments to get donations for members to shave their heads. All the money goes to cancer research. Over the years, this program has grown substantially throughout the country. Local hair stylists would be able to come in and do the shaving.
- 2) A parent suggested changing the Dominoes night from PTO nights. They wanted to participate but knowing that PTO was supplying pizza, they didn't. Sara was going to talk to Shonette Fushimi.
- 3) Any interest in having a Skate Party at Skate City, please let the PTO know. Skate City would come and bus the kids and the admission price would include an ice cream sundae.
- 4) Ideas for TOTS donations – the animal shelter, Brighton food bank.
- 5) Jonie Shafer will be at the October PTO meeting to talk about the bond issue and mill levy for the upcoming election.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

**TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!**

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