

MINUTES FOR JANUARY 4, 2011 MEETING

ATTENDANCE: Kristin Smith, Ken Gilbert, John Byrne, Christi Clark, Cheryl French, Margaret Hansen

THE MEETING BEGAN WITH SOCIAL TIME AT 6:00 pm. AND A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH Principal Ken Gilbert at 6:15. The business meeting was called to order at 6:30.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the December, 2010 meeting were made available in printed form. They are also on the school's website. It was **m/s/p** that the minutes be accepted as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Christi Clark reported that the balance sheet provided by the GAPS program showed a beginning balance \$2345.21. Disbursements during December were as follows: \$355 to the music department (its share of the spaghetti feed) and \$750 for the student shopping trip (discussed below). The ending balance was reported as \$1240.21. It was **m/s/p** that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Special All-School Meeting Regarding Budget Issues: The School District is holding off scheduling discussions of budget shortfall issues at present and intends to work out a schedule later. Ken Gilbert will coordinate the date and information to parents so all are aware of the chance to hear the presentation at Memorial.

McTakeover: This fundraiser where parent volunteers assist at the local McDonalds and a portion of the proceeds for designated time go to the PTC will be scheduled for Monday, March 7, 2011. Last year, the fund raiser went from 4:30 – 7:30. Parents are encouraged to volunteer and also encouraged to bring families and friends to eat at the McDonalds nearest the school at the designated date and time. It was **m/s/p** that President Kristin Smith would make the necessary arrangements for the date and time. It was reported that the local manager was particularly interested in supporting uses of the funds that stayed in the community and was pleased by President Smith's description of the PTC-sponsored activities.

Christmas Shopping Event: Equipped with the funds provided by the PTC, Ryan Graham, school counselor, and Maria Martinez, school registrar, and others took 14 students to the Heritage Mall to shop for family gifts and later to wrap them. The program enables students who may not otherwise be able to provide gifts to family members the opportunity. It was reported that this year's event, enhanced by the increased PTC contribution, was a great success.

Fund Raising Possibilities: President Smith asked Ken Gilbert to assemble a list of what fund-raising is being done by what organizations in the school to help ensure that efforts are

coordinated and not conflicting or duplicative. (Later there was a discussion of the Penny War and of the possibility of a Track Meet as a school event and fund- raiser. See below in New Business.)

Scholastic Book Fair: Assuming arrangements are made for a buy-one, get-two Scholastic Book Fair later this year, it was **m/s/p** that the PTC will provide \$250 to the language arts teachers for the purchase of books (plus the free books) to be distributed to students to encourage reading opportunities.

Haiku Contest: Large posters have been posted and small sheets will be distributed announcing the First Annual Memorial Haiku contest (with monetary prizes) for student-written original haikus. The haikus must be turned into a language arts teacher or the office no later than February 18, 2011.

NEW BUSINESS:

Track Meet/ Fund-Raising: After a discussion of a possible jogathon or similar event, a consensus arose that the PTC and the school should explore sponsoring a track meet this spring to provide an opportunity for all middle school students to exhibit their track skills as well as an opportunity to raise money for the PTC. The idea was motivated, in part, by the fact that the School District has cancelled the middle school track program to save money. Ken Gilbert intends to bring more information to the next meeting concerning what putting on such an event would entail. The PTC will discuss the matter further and make a decision at the next meeting.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon: Heidi Wiest was ill and could not attend the meeting but she will e-mail her suggestions for a barbeque style luncheon shortly.

Penny War: Ken Gilbert reported that the Leadership students are interested in conducting a coin-based fund raising activity aimed at assisting anti-disease research. In light of the possible conflict between fund raisers, and in light of Ken Gilbert's commitment to find alternate funds for the share of the bounce activity in the Spring fun day that the PTC formally funded, it was **m/s/p** not to conduct a Penny War fund raiser this academic year.

After School Activity: President Kristin Smith reported that her son had suggested an additional after-school activity aimed at middle school students who may want to enhance the presentation middle schoolers put on in the feeder elementary schools to help prepare fifth graders for the transition. Her son is particularly interested in communication issues and on stressing to prospective middle schoolers that it is neither necessary nor productive nor hip to use crude or offensive language while in middle school. Ken Gilbert described the school's current efforts to reach out to 5th graders who will be attending the middle school and indicated the suggestion would be taken up with the counselor (Ryan Graham) responsible.

Suggested Mural Project: Cheryl French suggested that a mural be designed and painted on a portion of the outside walls by interested students under her supervision as a Spring after-school activity. She asked that the PTC set aside \$200 to pay for paints and materials should the school want to go ahead with such an activity. Ken Gilbert indicated he would pursue the matter further

with Cheryl French. It was **m/s/p** to authorize up to \$200 for paints and materials if the project moves ahead.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Academic Awards: Ken Gilbert reported that Assistant Principal Kelly Bussard is interested in developing an academic awards program to recognize and honor academic achievement. He said that the details of the proposal were being worked out and would be reported in subsequent meetings. He noted that last year, academically based recognition was done at the graduation ceremony for the departing 8th graders and he wanted to expand the idea to cover all grades perhaps at mid-year as well as at the end of the academic year.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for **6 p.m., Tuesday, FEBRUARY 1, 2011.**