

MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER CLUB
MINUTES FOR JANUARY 9, 2012 MEETING

NOTE: THERE WAS NO DECEMBER, 2011 MEMORIAL PTC MEETING.

ATTENDANCE: Devan LaCoursiere, John Byrne, Cheryl French, Ken Gilbert, Vicki Harlos, Dawn Manning, Traci Egan

The meeting was called to order at 6:00.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Principal Ken Gilbert introduced Vicki Harlos, an Education Service District employee who is working temporarily at Memorial to gain local experience as part of her further education endeavors,

Fund Raising for Sound System (Pie Placement): The assembly on the last school day before the winter break featured the results of a fund raising activity – Ken Gilbert and Assistant Principal Kelly Bussard were selected as the victims of pie-in-the-face placement. (Students “voted” with donations which will be applied towards the proposed new sound system for events at the school.) Mr. Gilbert indicated that inexperience with such events led to a bit too rough a placement of the pies but that the event otherwise went well. The pie placement followed the assembly which was a well appreciated success.

After some discussion, it was agreed that the second round of sound system fund raising would be pig kissing at the assembly before the spring break. It was thought that the pig would pose less of a miscalculation hazard. There will also be a greater effort to build competition among the students voting (with cash) for this or that volunteer to get the honor of kissing the pig. A third event (a dunk tank?) is being planned for Fun Day before the end of the school year. (It was originally thought that four events could be scheduled but that has proven not to be feasible.) All the proceeds are being kept to help finance a new sound system for the school.

Going back to the assembly itself, Mr. Gilbert said that it was very well organized and went very well. He praised the leadership students for their work in putting the assembly together and he also praised Mrs. Meekins for her work in leading the leadership students.

Bear Time: Mr. Gilbert encouraged more feed back from parents on the bear time activities and classes. From his point of view, the program has generated student enthusiasm and is a success. It is adding interest and value to the school days. He

mentioned that Spanish Dancing has proven to be a particularly durably popular activity. In general, he said, the most popular classes/activities have been those put on by outsiders and classified staff members. The school plans to add new classes to the roster as the winter term gets underway.

The other side of Bear Time is the intervention classes. So far, Mr. Gilbert said, the focus has been on math and reading. Those intervention classes have resulted in reducing the failure rate in those subjects. However, the failure rate remains too high in other areas. At present, social studies and science are being added as intervention classes in an effort to bring improvement to those areas as well.

Christmas Shopping Trip: Mr. Gilbert reported that the counselor who oversaw the student Christmas shopping trip (Ryan Graham) would make a report at the next meeting. (The event is a PTC-sponsored event which enable students, who might otherwise lack the means, to buy presents for their families.) However, Mr. Gilbert did say that this year's outing – to the Woodburn mall – was a success all around. He also noted that the school was also able to distribute turkeys to some Memorial families before Christmas and he hoped the school community would help with even more turkeys next fall.

Academic Award and Dessert Night: Memorial will hold its second annual academic award and dessert night on the evening of **FEBRUARY 2**. It is a time when high performing students are recognized in the presence of families and peers. Dessert is provided after the award ceremony. The school will be asking for parent volunteers to help with the dessert service.

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

Minutes: The minutes of the November, 2011 Memorial PTC meeting were made available for those in attendance. It was **m/s/p** that the minutes be accepted as written.

Financial Report: Financial reports were made available to those in attendance for the period of November 1, 2011 to January 8, 2011. In addition, two reports summarizing the expenditures during the last part of 2011 and the period of September 1 to December 31, 2011 were also available for inspection. The most recent report reflects a positive balance of \$1,308.90. (This is the balance after all the receipts and expenditures (including paying the band portion of the net receipts) of the spaghetti feed are taken into account.) It was **m/s/p** that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

OLD BUSINESS

Multi-Cultural Night: There was discussion of the proposed multi-cultural evening both at the beginning of the meeting and after the Principal's report. It is envisioned that the evening will be a family-oriented evening with entertainment, demonstrations

and workshops, and food that highlights the many cultures that come together in the mid-valley. It was **m/s/p** that the PTC continue planning the event for the evening of **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2012**. To defray some of the expenses involved in the event, a modest charge of \$5 (adult), \$3 (child), \$15 (family) was set for attendees wanting to sample the food. (It is envisioned that attendees could make a dinner of small samples of a wide range of items.) Among the ideas that were discussed was a passport document to encourage attendees to visit all of the attractions; involvement of school groups that have been studying things like Spanish dancing, involvement of local restaurants that specialize in ethnic food, and involvement of Memorial parents in displays, food, and work shops. Cheryl French will do more planning for the event.

On the financial side, it was **m/s/p** that up to \$300 be allocated for the event. That sum is to include the approximately \$120 in hand in the form of a Fred Meyer's gift card (roughly \$110) and a Ray's gift card (roughly \$12.) Winnco has also been asked to donate to the event.

Ms. French will report on the progress of the planning and arrangements at the next meeting (**Monday, February 6, 2012**). After that, the school will publicize the event fully.

McTakeover: The PTC is hoping to do another McTakeover – a fund raising device at the local McDonalds where parents, teachers and staff members assist the employees at the restaurant and the PTC gets a portion of the proceeds for the allotted time period. The President will contact the MacDonal'd's to see if it is willing to do this again this year and to select a date, preferably in early March.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Lego Robotics Tournament: Ken Gilbert was congratulated for the successful hosting of the regional lego robotics tournament during the weekend of December 10 – 11. Approximately 50 teams from western and central Oregon participated. It was the first time that Memorial hosted such a tournament. It has been asked to host the tournament again next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

**THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 6, 2012 AT 6 P.M. IN A CLASSROOM NEAR
THE ENTRANCE TO THE SCHOOL.**