

PTA Meeting Minutes for November 1, 2011

Wendy called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. There were approximately 26 people in attendance.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Laura Gwyn provided an update on the budget. So far, 221 families have joined the PTA versus 200 budgeted. Great news on the success of the membership drive. The Giant gift card program is up \$2300 for year. After school activities are also going well. The BTS picnic broke even.

### **Community Service – Wendy Kuhn**

Lemonade Ripple – Assembly will be on Thursday, Nov 3 with members of Just Tryan It, the charity that was selected. Kristin Russell is working on a slide show. The Gazette will be here and will interview a few students that have been selected.

Martha's Table is ongoing and going well.

Book Drive during the book fair week. Gently used books are being collected. There will be a box out front for donations.

There will be a coat drive for our sister school through Linkages to Learning . Racks will be set up in the lobby for gently used coats for children and adults.

Walk for Autism was well received and a special morning for all involved. It was a great idea to hold it at Carderock on the same day as the National Walk.

### **Events – Wendy Kuhn**

Book Fair Family Night is Wed. 11/9 6:30-8:30pm. A fun night for the kids will be held in the APR – DJ, pizza for sale and a Bake Sale run by Girls on the Run.

The Book Fair preparation is going well. They are recruiting volunteers via VolunteerSpot. Kids and teachers will be working on wish lists. New this year, Sally Foster paper will also be on sale.

### **Programs – Wendy Kuhn**

“So this is Opera” will be held 11/28-12/2. There will be two assemblies – one for K-2 and one for 3-5. Yvette Lewis will spend time in each classroom and will spend time with each grade. Each child will attend one assembly and have two other sessions with her. Each grade will be doing a different, age-appropriate opera on Dec. 2. Parents are welcome to attend, but it will be videotaped and CDs will be available. This program was held a few years ago and the teachers are excited to have her back.

International Week will be held May 7-11, the same week as Staff Appreciation Week. Salma Hassan Ali is the Chair. Please note date change. The previously published date conflicted with MSA testing.

### **Volunteer Update – Karen Roman**

PTA Website has a new volunteer tab with three options for volunteering – lunch/recess, media, and book fair. We still need lots of volunteers for the book fair – especially Monday, Wednesday (family night), and Friday. Monday is a particularly busy day as that is the day that the students go through to create their wish lists.

There has been a great response from parents for the Halloween parties, lunch/recess duty, media. Thank you to those that have volunteered so far this year.

### **MCCPTA Update – Sara Love and Julie Weber**

The MCCPTA is a group of all the PTAs in the county. Sara provided an update on two main points –

Dr. Starr’s next “Listen and Learn” session will be at BCC HS on Wednesday, November 16th at 7:30pm. This is one of the last sessions.

Curfew – MCCPTA resolved to oppose the curfew that was under consideration in Montgomery County. The rationale was that the government shouldn’t get involved in how we parent.

### **CSES Foundation – Karen Roman**

Karen provided an update on the programs led by the Foundation. The Foundation’s two main initiatives are the technology program and the mini grants. The Foundation approved 6 new mini grants including software, book libraries, and classroom materials. They also approved \$300 to put towards a start up library for new teachers.

Both PTA and Foundation play important roles. The PTA focuses on advocacy and helping teachers and staff. The Foundation focuses on the technology program, upgrades to the building, and enriching staff training.

### **Other Items**

The PTA will fund a cafeteria account that can be used for new students who don’t have their lunch. The PTA will also fund field trips for anyone on the FARMS program. This will all be done confidentially by the office.

The tables and water dispenser have been purchased. The teachers and staff love the water dispenser and the tables have already been used!

Principal Meetings – Mr. Palmisano plans to host grade level meetings during the first two weeks in Dec and first week of March and last week of March (scheduled around MSA testing). The tentative schedule is Dec 6 – K, Dec 7 – 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 8 – 2<sup>nd</sup>, Dec 13 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 14 – 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 15 – 5<sup>th</sup> TBD - Autism program. All meetings will be held 7-8pm. The March schedule will be determined later.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm. Next PTA meeting is scheduled for Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 9:30-10:30am.

The Parent Education speaker was Dr. Robert Chase who presented on “Developing Your Children’s Organizational Skills & Executive Functioning” \*\*See website for power point slides.