

## Monthly PTA Meetings – May 1, 2012

Wendy called the meeting to order at 10:05am. There were approximately 20 people in attendance.

Wendy thanked Karen Roman for the slide show and music that played during the start of the breakfast portion of the meeting. The slide show highlighted and thanked many of our PTA volunteers.

Wendy also thanked all of the parent volunteers who helped to make it a great school year. She also thanked Suzanne Crump, Holly Hoscheit, and Michelle Murphy for the breakfast.

Wendy then turned the meeting over to Mr. Palmisano.

### **Principal's Report – Mr. Palmisano**

On behalf of the teachers and staff, Mr. Palmisano thanked everyone for what they do for the school. He mentioned that in recent interviews, he talked about how involved and supportive the parent community is.

Dr. Starr made an impromptu visit to Carderock last Friday (April 27). He arrived around 10:15am and was at the school for about 45 minutes and visited about 10 classrooms. He talked to students and introduced himself to parents and staff in those rooms. He tweeted his visit if any parents follow him on Twitter.

He then reviewed staffing projections for next year while cautioning that it is still very early and the numbers are very much in flux.

Kindergarten is projected at 59 students and is currently staffed for 3 classes. He projects that we will gain 4-5 students.

5<sup>th</sup> grade is projected at 50 students in 2 classes.

3<sup>rd</sup> grade is projected at 72 students in 3 classes – 24 students/classroom.

4<sup>th</sup> grade is projected for 60 students and is currently staffed for 3 teachers – 20/class. He anticipates gaining a few students over the summer. He has hired a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher. The teacher is currently on leave and living in Arizona, but has taught at Clopper Mill. She has been offered the position and has accepted – she is coming back to the area on June 18<sup>th</sup>. She has great experience, comes highly recommended. She has a Masters in Technology Integration.

1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade is currently projected to have a combination class. There will be 2 1<sup>st</sup> grade classrooms, 2 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classrooms and a 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> combination class. There would be about 24 in each class. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> will have reading initiative (.6 reading initiative allocated for next year) for a 2 hour block when the class sizes would be 20 students per class and students in the combination class would be regrouped with students in their own grade. There exists a 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> curriculum for science and social studies that would be followed. The issue that needs to be worked out is the approach for the math block as there can't be a split class for math. There are currently 61 first graders, and we project gaining a few. No

teacher has been selected, but a successful combination class is teacher driven. He has someone in mind that no one would object to having.

Cindy share asked about the usage of substitutes and Mr. Palmisano said that CSES usage is typical.

A parent asked about Math for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade next year. Mr. Palmisano said that they will not switch for Math. There will be a whole group lesson and then break down into smaller groups, for acceleration and enrichment piece.

He announced that a new report card, an electronic report card, is coming. He will go over that change in more detail at the upcoming Parent Meeting for K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade parents.

### **Treasurer's Report – Laura Gwyn**

Laura distributed copies of the budget and noted that we have exceeded the goal for membership and for PTA donations. The goal was 210 members and we have 250 members (out of 280 families)

The issue of substitutes was raised. The PTA covers the cost of subs (\$130/teacher/day )for in school training or planning for Curriculum 2.0.

Giant Gift Card program had another successful year.

### **Parent Recognition – Sara Bhatia**

Sara spoke about the tradition of honoring “graduating” parents who have been PTA Board members, volunteers in classrooms, PTA committee chairs The books are donated to the school library in honor of the parent. The titles are all purchased off of Mrs. Martinson’s wish list.

### **Nominating Committee – Liz Hudson**

Liz Hudson presented the board slate for next year. The slate was unanimously approved. Next year’s PTA Board is:

Karen Roman	President	<a href="mailto:karenroman1@gmail.com">karenroman1@gmail.com</a>
Wendy Kuhn	President Emeritus	<a href="mailto:kahilil0692@msn.com">kahilil0692@msn.com</a>
Leanne Till	VP – Community Service	<a href="mailto:leannetill@hotmail.com">leannetill@hotmail.com</a>
Anthea Higgins	VP – Fundraising & Events	<a href="mailto:anthea.higgins@gmail.com">anthea.higgins@gmail.com</a>
Christine Fruehwirth	VP – Programs	<a href="mailto:thefrues@verizon.net">thefrues@verizon.net</a>
Laura Gwyn	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:lsqwyn@yahoo.com">lsqwyn@yahoo.com</a>
Liz Hudson	Co-Secretary	<a href="mailto:liz.hudson@verizon.net">liz.hudson@verizon.net</a>
Amy Moore	Co-Secretary	<a href="mailto:moore0328@gmail.com">moore0328@gmail.com</a>
Lisa London	MCCPTA	<a href="mailto:llondon8213@yahoo.com">llondon8213@yahoo.com</a>
Julie Weber	MCCPTA	<a href="mailto:Jsw_3001@yahoo.com">Jsw_3001@yahoo.com</a>
Anne Kisslinger	Cluster Rep	<a href="mailto:akisslinger@msn.com">akisslinger@msn.com</a>
Liz Burdick	Autism/Special Needs Liason	<a href="mailto:lizburdick@yahoo.com">lizburdick@yahoo.com</a>

Many parents have stepped up to chair committees for next year. We are still looking for someone to take over the Weekly ENewsletter, International Week, and FLES if anyone is still looking for a volunteer opportunity.

### **Miscellaneous Business – Wendy Kuhn**

Autism Awareness Project – Part of cub chats this month with Ms. Klotzman. Each child got a puzzle piece to draw or write a message. All the pieces will be put together in the lobby of the school. This project is being run by parent volunteers from the Autism program.

Autism Speaks 5K on July 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be a CSES team again this year for all those who are interested.

### **Upcoming Events – Wendy Kuhn**

Ongoing – Tile Project for the front of the school that Visiting Artist Kristina Valencia is doing.

5/2 – Darryl Cobb will be visiting this week and he has done a Carderock specific book that was available for purchase.

5/7-11 – Staff Appreciation Week. The Committee has pulled together a great calendar of events for the week.

5/17 – Spring Fling. Wristbands and food went on sale today and you can go online and purchase food, cake walk tickets, and wristbands.

5/21 – Jump Rope for Heart

5/29-6/1 International Week with special assembly on 5/30. Highlighting work with International Heroes

5/31 – Career Day

June

6/5 PTA Meeting State of School Mr. Palmisano's State of the School address.