

PTSA Meeting Minutes February 2, 2015

Present: Deanna Louis, Kari Honer, Jill Tauaalo, Jill Plonka.

The meeting was called to order by President Deanna Louis.

The secretary's report from the November meeting was approved.

Treasurer's report: Current balance is about \$2393.59. Jill P. gave Kari a check from Kwik Trip Milk Moola.

Ithaca Foundation Report – Jill P. said there is going to be a Mystery Dinner on Friday, March 27, 2015. This is an adults-only type meal/entertainment with students helping out with serving, waiting and bussing tables. Members of the Foundation “host” a table and if anyone would like to attend or find out more information they should contact Rob Richards.

Old Business

Thank you: From the staff for the Christmas treats.

Thank you to Monica Kershner, Melissa Sprecher and Tonya Birkrem for supplying the Christmas treats for the teachers as well!

The elementary teachers were very pleased with the Christmas checks. Several thank you notes were received for them. Ms. Grassman let her 3rd grade class decide what to do with the \$30 and they decided to donate their money to Passages as part of the food drive before Christmas. We received copies of the letters that her students wrote to Passages about the gift. Way to go 3rd grade – we are proud of you!!!

Apparel Fundraiser – The long sleeved shirts and sweatshirt sale held this past fall was a success. Jill P. said that there are about 30-40 t-shirts left. Jill T. asked if we would be selling shorts this spring. Deanna said that the current company we are getting the t-shirts from does not sell shorts. The Win-Win site also does not sell shorts. We will table this idea to see if there is interest.

School supplies – One of the teachers had sent home a note asking for the kids to bring in more school supplies. Jill P. will email all the teachers/staff to let them know that we do still have supplies in the cabinet in Ms. Breuer's room in the Middle School. Also, if a certain item is not in there, Jill P. will have the teachers email their requests (item, how many) to her and she will get the supplies as we still have around \$3-400 that was donated to the PTSA for the specific use of purchasing school supplies.

Ithaca PTSA Funds Request Form – We will run off several of these forms and leave them in the PTSA mailbox in the office for any group/teacher to request funds from the PTSA. This will help us with our yearly budget and if any item requested is too much for the PTSA, Jill P. can take it to the Ithaca Foundation to see if this is something they might want to cover. Jill P. will email the staff to inform them of this request form.

Popcorn Machine Guidelines – We tabled this discussion until March.

New Business

Elementary yearbook- Deanna contacted Susan Bloczynski and Susan is going to design and create a pdf of the yearbook for Hynek's to print. Jill T. mentioned that her yearbook from last year had come loose/fallen apart and we noticed that the covers on the ones that Deanna had leftover were

cracking at the binding. Deanna will see if Hynek's has a choice for higher quality binding/cover materials and how much the upcharge might be. Kari is going to see if Mrs. Walker is still interested in selling back issues of the Elementary Yearbook and/or if she had any previous issues left. This year the cover of the yearbook will be the all Elementary student/staff picture that Mrs. Ziemke took on picture day. Jill P. mentioned maybe this could be a yearly event and the picture could always go on the cover. She will talk to Mrs. Ziemke about this in the future.

Science Fairs - Deanna will check with Mrs. Willis to see what the dates of the Science Fairs will be so we can round up volunteers to help with the snacks we provide. Jill P. offered to do one of them.

Boxtops/Milk Caps pick-up – Jill is picking up items this week. Boxtops are due in by March 1. Milk caps can be sent in anytime. Last pick up will be April 30.

Selling t-shirts, Ithacaopoly games, seat cushions – Jill P. has shipped 2 games to alumni. She will also be selling at the home double header game on Friday, Feb. 13 and at the Youth Basketball tournament on Saturday, Feb. 14.

Semester Star Nominations – Deanna has a couple so far. She mentioned a student that needed to be nominated and she will contact the student's coach about the nomination. Jill P. will send out the form and reminder now that the new semester has started.

Parent/Teacher Conferences – We voted to provide subs once again for one of the nights. Kari contacted Pam and she said that the administration would like us to provide them on Tuesday, Feb. 17. Deanna will pick up chips and cookies at Sam's and Kari will see that the sub platter is ordered and delivered. Jill P. will email teachers beforehand so they know their supper is provided.

Volunteer Week – It is April 12-18 – we will discuss at the March Meeting.

Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week & Breakfast – May 4-8 – we will discuss at the March Meeting.

Future of the Vending Machine – Deanna and Doug Louis have done an amazing job of filling and fixing the Vending machine. It is a lot of work, however, and Deanna is going back to school and keeping up with a high schooler's schedule now so finding time to do it is challenging. Deanna purchases all items from Sam's Club in Madison. All in attendance at the meeting decided that the vending machine is an important source of lunches and after school snacks to kids so it is crucial that it be kept in the school. Jill T. mentioned possibly having a company come in and fill it but because the school is not located near a major city, it may be cost prohibitive. Deanna has talked to another organization within the school with an on staff advisor to possibly take over the machine. Deanna thought it would be a good idea to have someone who works in the building be in charge of it so when error codes come up they can be remedied immediately instead of a day later. Deanna has kept the prices of the items in the machine very low. The profit on most items is just a few pennies in most instances as we in the PTSA feel we are doing it more as a service than a fundraiser. Deanna would be willing to train the new group and give them literature on the school lunch guidelines so they would still be able to sell items in the machine all day. More will be discussed at the March meeting and we will likely need permission from the School Board to hand this off to another group.

The next meeting will be **Monday, March 16, 2015 at 5:30 pm in the Commons** before the Winter Sports Awards program.