

## PTSA Meeting Minutes February 24, 2014

Present: Deanna Louis, Kari Honer, Tezra Menne, Pam Moser, Jill Plonka

The meeting was called to order by President Deanna Louis.

The secretary's report was approved as written.

Treasurer's report: Current balance is \$4131.11

### **Old Business:**

Thank you: Mrs. Wobschall & Ms. Jensen for Xmas checks, the staff for the Xmas treats, Mrs. Crook for sponsoring her PANTS program, the Richards family for the memorial for Joy.

The Family Fun Reading Night will be Thursday, March 13 from 3 pm to 5 pm (snowdate March 20). We received an invoice for \$507 to sponsor the books for the event. Kari wrote a check out for Ithaca Schools and Jill will get it to Lisa Monson tomorrow.

Deanna gave 400+ Labels for Education labels to Tezra that she had received from a friend. Hopefully we will have enough points where we can purchase some items soon.

Not everybody who ordered Spiritwear was aware of the pick-up date and thusly one order was lost. The parent was reimbursed. Next year in addition to the pick-up date/time being in the announcements and on facebook, we will call and email each person to notify them of the pick-up time and if they are unable to make it, set up a time when they can meet at the school to pick up their order from a PTSA member.

Spirit items sales went well. Tezra sold at a wrestling meet and Jill sold at one boys and one girls basketball game. We sold 3 window clings, 3 magnets, 5 bottle koozies, 4 seat cushions and 1 game.

Jill emailed an updated version of the bylaws and Deanna handed out printed copies to all present. A discussion about whether or not to offer a scholarship next year (2015) followed. Kari also mentioned that we may want to look into becoming a 503(c) organization so any scholarships awarded would be tax deductible and for other tax exempt reasons as well. Cost of a 503(c) status is a one-time fee of \$300. We will look at the proposed bylaws and also into the 503(c) status for next month's meeting.

Vending Machine: Deanna said the machine has still been working nearly perfectly. She mentioned that a parent came up and thanked her for filling that machine and if it weren't for that, her kids wouldn't have lunch every day. Deanna does put a lot of work into maintaining and filling the machine and everyone present at the meeting thanked her for all her hard work.

Tezra placed a new cell phone/ink cartridge bin out in the commons outside the office near the vending machine.

Thank you to Mrs. Moser for being our "delivery Cupid" for the treats for Valentine's day!

Semester Star program: Mrs. Johnson had emailed Jill asking if the forms for this were available yet. Deanna will email the forms to Mrs. Crook who can distribute them electronically to all the HS teachers. Teachers can nominate any student in the high school from last semester or this semester. Up to 8 students will be honored at the Awards Banquet in May. Nominations are due in the PTSA

mail box by April 11 (before the April meeting). Next year the nominating forms will go out right away in the fall and we will designate between semesters – 4 students for first semester and 4 students for 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **New Business:**

Mrs. Willis asked if we would do snacks for the science fairs again this year and Deanna said we would. Kelly Feryance has volunteered to oversee the snacks for the Middle School Science fair on March 11. Jill Plonka volunteered to oversee the snacks for the Elementary School Science fair on April 3.

Deanna was able to go online and get 75 free eBoxtops from purchasing supplies for the vending machine along with the ones that are on the boxes.

Deanna also gave vending machine money to Kari. Jill gave spirit item sale money to Kari.

Deanna got 3 free new books through the Kellogs Great Starts Great Stories program. Jill will see if Mrs. Walker/Mrs. Schmitz would be interested in them. To enroll in the program simply go to [www.kellogsfamilyrewards.com](http://www.kellogsfamilyrewards.com), sign up for an account and enter in codes from Kellogs cereal products to earn free books through the Great Starts Great Stories program (3 codes per book). You can also choose to turn your points into money from other Kellogs products (Keebler, Cheez-It) by donating to the Ithaca Elementary school.

Jill has offered to be the PTSA representative to the Ithaca Foundation so that we may coordinate projects and bring new ideas to each other. Rob Richards will let her know when the next meeting is.

Mrs. Ziemke had emailed Deanna about a possible donation for some new shelving and storage in the library. Jill will contact Mrs. Ziemke on the details and possibly bring this to the Ithaca Foundation.

April 7-11 is National Volunteer Week. Kari will come up with a nice write-up for the paper like she did last year by the next meeting. Jill will also do a display case recognizing our volunteers.

Elementary yearbook: The theme for the Cover Art contest will be “I Show My Bulldog Pride By...”. Deanna will get the special paper recommended by the yearbook printer and email Ms. Durkin to ask if her elementary art classes will draw a picture on this paper based on the theme. Deanna is also looking for people who might act as the yearbook photographer. Mrs. Ziemke said she would get the pictures off the school digital camera and organize them by class and get them to Deanna. We are also looking for someone in the near future to take over the job of Elementary yearbook coordinator from Deanna as she no longer has kids in the elementary. If you are interested or want to see what it entails, contact Deanna.

We are going to do another staff breakfast in May during teacher/staff appreciation week. Melissa Sprecher had helped Deanna last year with this and we’ll see if she would like to help again. Deanna has a list of foods that went over and ones that didn’t and will base her ordering of food from this. She will also see if the NHS would like to help like they did last year.

We will also put an ad in the Shopping News/Observer during Teacher/Staff appreciation week in May. Deanna will get a list of everyone from Mary Jo in the office.

Tezra said she sent in \$463 worth of boxtops and about \$573 worth of Kwik Trip caps/labels. She said we also have \$75 banked at the cell phone collection company that we can either cash out or

use to purchase supplies. **The next and last pickup of the year will be April 30.** Jill will send out a notification with the students after spring break and also a list of labels/caps to save over the summer.

Mrs. Steinmetz had brought up the possibility of doing a Culver's Share Night fundraiser. Deanna said she had done one of these with her daughter's 4-H club in Spring Green. We would need to contact the manager of the branch we'd like to have the Share Night at and they will get you on a list. But Deanna warned that there tends to be a long waiting list for these. Deanna also mentioned fundraising by volunteering at the Hybrid Redneck events over at the fairgrounds. They will pay \$8/person/hour to your organization. Jill will look into these and talk to Mrs. Steinmetz about them.

We also discussed how to get students to come to our meetings as "student" is part of our organizational name. It was suggested that next fall we ask the teacher advisors to send a student from their organization (FFA, FBLA, Student Council, NHS, Spanish Club, Choir, Band, etc.) to at least one meeting. The student could tell us details about their organization and any issues they may have that the PTSA could help them out with. We will discuss this further at the May meeting.

The next meeting is Monday, March 17, 2014 at 6 pm in the Commons.