

PTSA Meeting Minutes August 19, 2013

Present: Deanna Louis, Tezra Menne, Kari Honer, 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: Beginning of the year balance is \$5074.82. Kari handed out a spreadsheet showing all the income and expenditures from last school year. Our biggest fundraiser last year was the Boxtops and the second most was the vending machine. Deanna projected the vending machine sales/income could be triple or more of what they were last year. Report was approved.

Mrs. Moser gave a very interesting and informative presentation on the Middle School Reward for Good Behavior program she started towards the end of last year. We all found it to be an excellent program worthy of PTSA support and we will help fund this program for the 2013-14 school year.

Old Business:

We received thank you notes from Mrs. Newkirk and Mrs. Rush for the fruit/ice cream party, Karen Cockroft, Verla Pauls, the Ithaca Staff for the appreciation breakfast, Mrs. Willis for snacks for the science fairs, the family of Ken Bingham, Mrs. Steinmetz for various items, and the Business Office for the breakfast.

Tools For School Drive – Going very well. Already there are several items in boxes at the commons and at Community First Bank. Kristie Lee/Troxel Farms LLC donated 18 backpacks and \$500 to purchase supplies with. Items will be allotted to Mrs. Wallace for the backpacks she puts together each year and Mrs. Moser offered to store as many of the rest of the supplies as she could in her storage cabinet in Mrs. Huffar's room. Teachers will be notified to contact Mrs. Moser if they need any supplies. We believe we will get many more supplies during the Open House on August 29.

New Business:

Open House August 29 – We decided to have a table with information about the PTSA and sign-up sheets to include Name, Address, Phone number and Email address and check boxes if they would like to attend meetings, just get email notifications or would just like to help out with special projects. We will also do a drawing and give away 5 Ithacaopoly games, 5 sets of 2 bottle cozies (10 total), and 5 Subway \$5 gift cards that Kari can get for \$4.50 each. Jill will design the display and Deanna will loan her a trifold board to use for it. Jill will be down to school around 3:30pm the day of the Open House to set up.

Budgeting - All members were asked to think about projects and items that the school might need this year and costs. Also, a possible maximum amount for the Sunshine committee to spend may need to be set. Items we spent on last year included: playground balls, microwaves for the commons area, memorials, donations for benefits, elementary school teachers each received \$30 for classroom supplies, Science fair snacks, and the staff appreciation breakfast. Some new items we are planning on spending on this year include the Middle School Reward Program, treats for the staff as a thank you during holidays and possibly a High School student of the quarter program similar to the middle school reward program.

Requests – Mrs. Walker requested some bean bag poly fill for the bean bag chairs in the library as they are getting low. This was approved and Deanna will order 8 – 3.5 cubic ft. bags of fill from

Walmart.com and have them delivered to the school in care of Mrs. Walker. Mrs. Steinmetz had requested some sand and/or sandboxes for the playground area last spring. There is an area under the tower that kids have been using but it is just dirt, no sand. Deanna will contact Randy Olson about possibly donating a load of sand to fill that area. She will also contact the new 4K teacher Ms. Barto and see if she'd like one of those turtle sand boxes for the 4K playground area. Mrs. Schoen had said last spring that she had one she'd donate.

Fundraisers – We discussed doing fundraisers at the Ithaca Fair. Tattoos and face painting were discussed as a “free will offering” type of fundraiser we could do at a booth/table in the gym. Tezra said she would contact people she knows who may be willing to do this. Also selling Ithacaopoly games, seat cushions, cow bells and water bottles were discussed. We will continue the discussion at the next meeting. Deanna found another vendor for the apparel fundraiser done in the late fall. She will get more price quotes for the next meeting.

Charter/By-Laws – The Ithaca PTSA currently does not have one. Jill will work on this.

School Website – We would like to have the PTSA on the school homepage listed on the left side of the page and not under “Organizations”. Jill will contact the new webmaster Robin Ziemke to do this.

Facebook Page – We decided we needed to have our own Facebook page but set up as a group. Deanna will start this and list all of the officers as administrators so we can regulate and post items as needed.

We also discussed ways to not only get the community more involved but to get the teaching staff more involved as well. We'd like to have Mr. Smudde come to 1 or 2 meetings a year and maybe ask the teachers if they'd like to rotate coming to meetings with their ideas or lists of items they'd like to have for their classes.

The next meeting is Monday, September 16, 2013 at 6 pm in the Commons.