

## **Board meeting October 6, 2009, in room 6 at East Ridge**

***Present: Denise Nicholson, Amy Cummings, Mary Mulkins, Becky Gerhardt, Maureen Wilson, Trish Cooper, Margaret Hughes, Sandy Skeel, Nancy Nygren, Julie Amer, Angela van Lierop, Debbie Markezich, Stacy Murphy, Henmar Vlogman, Wendy McNamara***

### ***Welcome***

We have a quorum

### ***Minutes last meeting***

Amendments to minutes: Sandy Skeel mentions that Cindy Temple and Sandy are willing to take up the gardening. Denise and Henmar have found a hospitality chair, Laurie Juedes.

The minutes are approved.

### ***Directory report***

The directory is almost done, with advertising for over \$ 1000 which will more than cover for costs. The policy of a free directory for every family will continue. There will be 2 copies for people with double memberships. Otherwise we'll charge \$ 5 for extra directories. Last year we had one for every family, one for every staff member and a few extras. Maureen Wilson will give Nancy Nygren a list of double memberships. The membership cards weren't printed out last year, but Maureen is planning on doing them this year and they will be sent home. Everyone agrees that the directory should come out as soon as we can.

### ***Principal report***

Stacy Murphy is there and compliments staff, kids and parents on the start of the school. For the future: her prognosis is very good, she needs 4 more chemo treatments and radiation after that. At the end of January things might be back to normal. If kids show worries to parents, Stacy ask to please talk to them.

The new math expressions are in full swing. Some materials need to show up, some are temporary. It's new and kids and teachers learn the new terminology. First assessment may not look as stellar as they used to, because it's all new.

Enrollment: there are a lot of new families, 406 students (30 less than last year) which means reduction in support, like less school assistant time, fewer teachers, no reading specialist. Parent support is very important, even in volunteer hours.

### ***Treasurer report***

A treasurer's report was presented. Money has come in from the Walkathon and for the Directory.

There is not so much going on in Programs and Events yet. The Welcome back celebration used less so will be under budget. Checks from last year that haven't been cashed still present a problem. Everyone that get checks for reimbursements, please cash those checks faster. Angela wants to work on some issues tightening the finances, like bank statements have to be signed by a few people. Angela would consider using another bank or credit union. It is more convenient to bank at Cottage Lake, but there could be better options somewhere else.

Teachers aren't supposed to handle money, we might need to think about some other plan to collect money. Maybe a designated PTA person should be at the door collecting the money. We are going to work on these changes, but in the course of the year.

### ***Membership report***

We are up to 259 members, up 100 from last year. Denise says we might get a Gold reward because we've increased so much. Sandy says we could mention it in the newsletter and encourage people to sign up.

### ***Event reports***

**Walkathon:** goal was \$ 15000, now 17500, probably 4000 in matching. The form for matching funds in the envelope is very important. Mrs. Oliver won the Jamba party for the younger kids and Mrs. Collyer for the older kids. Wii went on sale (45 dollars less). There were 5 target cards and 10 subway cards for prizes. The donation of \$ 1000 (Hunter foundation) won the Wii. Amy Cummings says kids love the event. Jamba Juice only donated the smoothies for the Walkathon day, not the class parties any more due to a change in their budget. Becky gets compliments for her achievements.

**Penny drive:** there is a giant bucket of pennies in Becky's garage, can she have Penny Wednesdays or something to collect more? Yes, everyone agrees. \$ 600 in pennies right now. Ideas of how to collect the pennies go around, maybe by the busses, at car lane etc. She stores them for now to display them later. For depositing the money an idea would be to contact call Jesse or something to get it for free.

**Fall event/Welcome back festival:** The lines were very long, but bbq was nice though. Next year: someone needs to be in charge, so they can plan it before summer.

**Program night:** Oct. 27 there will be a family magic show. There will be a science magic show assembly during the day. We're covering both shows, 375 dollars needs to be moved in the program budget. Edumacement is the website. It's on the PTA website as well with a link.

### **PTA reports (PTA council, PTA and the law)**

Angela went and learned a lot about the law. Sales tax rules will be changing in January. Denise went to the PTA council meeting. Arrowhead has 105 % membership.

### ***Requests for grants***

Mary Mulkins: Janie Anderson is requesting 1800 dollars for an artist in residence (1-2 weeks) for instruction on steel drums. Gary Gibson has been approached. Grade levels 4-6, for 225 students. She might be able to use them afterwards in her music lessons.

*Margaret makes a motion to approve, Debbie seconds. Everyone in favor.*

Sandy Skeel: Every year we grant 5000 dollars for the library. The library needs it at the beginning of the year, so she can order the books. Volunteers have to process the books, cover them etc. so it takes longer. Can Ms. Chwirka get the full amount now? *Sandy makes a motion to fund the grant that is in the budget now. Wendy seconds. All in favor, motion carried.*

Play: Tim Root is doing the tech. Play is Willy Wonka. They need more lights and need more audio (walkie talkie). It will be \$ 500 for buying the stuff. Debbie will do a revised budget. *Debbie makes a motion to increase the play budget for 500 dollars, Sandy Skeel seconds. Motion carried.*

Emergency Prep is looking for parents that want to sign up to help. They will get trained at student release. Corps of volunteers needed.

### ***General Membership meetings discussion***

Denise would like to have General Membership meetings with a speaker like teachers (math curriculum), district people and so forth. Trish asks if the organization of this will be under the VP of Programs. It will not, the President would do that.

We need 10 people for a quorum. November 17 would be a good night for a general meeting. Everyone will be emailed.

### ***Any other business***

Box tops: first collection will be next Monday. There will be a drawing for everyone that brings in a box top. E-scrip got permission to put boxes at Safeway in Duvall until Oct. 13 for non members. Already \$ 50 . Maybe this is an idea to expand on.

Emergency preparedness: Amy Cummings says the container is still inadequate. They are going to be purchasing water. Also, 85 % of the food has expired and that's a big expense. We only have 1 granola bar per child. If the kitchen gets blocked, we can't get to the food. Replacement of food and water is necessary and they would like to increase the number of bars to 1 bar a day (for 3 days). In lock down kids won't get food because they are locked in the classrooms.

The Emergency Prep Committee will be asking for additional grant money. Also, they need to look into medical supplies. They have to prioritize. Now they're focussing on water and food. East Ridge is prepared for the shelter in place.

Wendy mentions that most kids will be picked up a lot earlier than 3 days. Becky is suggesting to send a note to parents to have them send in stuff. However, there is a storage issue in classrooms and also problems with leaking etc. A few years ago, there was a decision not to have people send in stuff. Sandy: you could ask for donations for water/bars. Amy/Margaret are working with Janie Anderson as a liaison. Please come to the meeting of the emergency prep meeting.

***Next board meeting Nov. 3, 9 am. Look for nominating committee.***