

MOHAWK ELEMENTARY PTO MEETING MINUTES

The September meeting of the Mohawk Elementary PTO was called to order at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, September 16, 2014. In attendance were the Principal, Ms. McVicar, the PTO Executive Board, PTO members and teacher representatives: Mrs. Macera, Mrs. Weiss, and Mrs. Locklear.

President, Sian Lyons, opened the meeting with a welcome and round table introductions. She thanked everyone for coming and, in honor of Ms. McVicar, asked what Pooh character are you most like.

During the Principal's report, Ms. McVicar discussed the new federally mandated "Smart Snacks at School" program and passed out a flyer that explained in more detail what a smart snack was. Any food sold in the school has to pass the new guidelines. With many kids having food allergies, the teachers will be trained on how to administer the epi pens correctly.

During the teachers report, Mrs. Locklear thanked the PTO for dinner at the Meet & Greet. Mrs. Weiss said the children are getting into the routine of attending school and that everyone is working hard on the new math program.

During the Q & A from parents, Paula Palmer wanted to know where the green school flag for the outside flag pole was. Ms. McVicar said she wasn't sure where it was and that she would look into it. Kim Popso wanted to know if/where the Science Olympiad pictures from the Spring competition were posted and are we going to have a Science Olympiad this year. Ms. McVicar stated that she would look into the picture situation and that at the moment we do not have a coach for Science Olympiad. The position is posted and we are waiting to hear if someone is interested. What are the qualifications for Science Olympiad? Ms. McVicar said she would check. Christina wanted to know why the small parking lot out front was not repaired. It was supposed to be part of the bond issue and was to be repaired over the summer. Instead, new lines were painted and the lot is still crumbling. Ms. McVicar said she would check into why the repairs were not done. Where is the outdoor science area? Ms. McVicar said that that project was cancelled. There were not enough people to take care of the area and that she would rather see something out front that the kids can participate/take care of. What is the minimum age for children attending Latchkey? Last year it was 4 years 9 months. Ms. McVicar said that she has received a number of calls on this issue and that when she checked; she was told that in order for a child to attend Latchkey, they have to be kindergarten age by October 1st. Is Mohawk doing a mural in the lobby? Ms. McVicar said that it is being talked about and that she has some ideas for it. She has not heard back from the person who paints them so not sure on what the cost would be. The goal is to make the school more kid friendly.

During the President's report, a motion was made by Kim McEvoy and seconded by Kelly Peacock-Anderson to approve the May 2014 meeting minutes. No one was eligible in May to be elected to the open positions of Social Committee and Room Parent Coordinator for grades K-2. Paula Palmer was nominated by Kim McEvoy to be the Room Parent Coordinator and Christina Makarov seconded. Jessica Harris nominated Kim Popso for the open Social Committee Coordinator and Sandra Marin seconded. Sian stated that volunteer forms were sent home and most have been returned to the PTO office. The PTO will be in contact with those that have signed up to chair/help on a committee in the next couple of

weeks. If you were signed up for the mail out system, you have automatically been signed up for the new School Messenger system. This is replacing the Mail Out system. If you are running an event and need to distribute flyers, there are certain procedures that need to be followed. We have all of that information in the PTO office.

During the treasurer report, Christina Makarov presented bank statements and closing balances for June, July, and August.

The following committee reports were made:

-Welcome Back Ice Cream Social: many people thought that the teachers were not in the building and they were. Most were in the library. People were also disappointed that the rooms were not open. There was a scheduling issue this year as to when the Meet and Greet could take place, so many teachers did not have their rooms ready and available for Meet and Greet. Parents disappointed with how the first day of school was handled. There was a lack of communication regarding meeting in and being released from the gym. Need better communication for next school year.

-Entertainment Book Sale: going on now. Rep for Entertainment is coming tomorrow to hand out the stuffed animal with money inside to those who sold 2 or more books.

-Tiger Trek: will be October 3rd this year. The flyer should be coming home by the end of this week. Working on securing the limo for the limo/lunch ride. Lunch will probably be at Red Robin again this year.

-Art to Remember: packets going out next month. Kids are making pictures now in art class.

-Mom 2 Mom: Kelly said the date will be November 14th. The flyer will come home soon.

-Roller Skating Night: was this past Monday (September 15th). Went well, nicely attended.

-Window Decal Sale: on going, \$2 per decal.

-Trunk-or-Treat: will be Friday, October 24th.

-Torii Hunter Baseball Raffle: was supposed to be done last spring but we did not receive our raffle license in time. Tickets are on sale now and the winner will be announced on Friday, September 26th.

-Sweatshirt/T-Shirt sale: Kelly said we will have some new designs this year including a child designed one. Order forms will go out in mid-October.

-Donuts with Dad: will not be donuts this year because of the new food guidelines. Will still have the event, will just serve something else.

-Spring Fair: due to a scheduling conflict, the date had to be changed from what is on the PTO calendar. The new date is April 17th.

-Muffins with Mom: will not be muffins because of the new food guidelines. Will still have the event, just serving something else.

-Box Tops: new mom taking this over. The first challenge ends on September 26th.

-Funding Factory: is the new name for Cartridges for Kids. Donate your used printer cartridges and someone picks them up and they send us a check.

-Green School Team: need more parent volunteers.

-Gordon Food Service: Sign up is free and every quarter Gordon's will send us a check based on how much you spend.

-Health Team: first meeting was last week. Walk to school day is scheduled for October 8th, Fitness Fridays: one Friday a month kids stay after school and a fitness group comes in and leads the group in exercise; October is red ribbon month. Need more parent volunteers.

-Kids Helping Kids: donate \$5 and a seasonal cut out will be sent home with your child to decorate. Return the cutout and they will be put in the school lobby.

- Kroger: have to register/re-register by April 1st.
- Labels for Education: Kelly said send in labels. The art teacher received some new supplies and was very thankful.
- Market Day: Christina said once a month fliers go home and our school gets 10-15% back. Pick up is first Tuesday every month.
- Restaurant Nights: fliers will be going out. First night is September 25th at Firehouse Subs. Chuck E. Cheese is scheduled for October 10th, and Hungry Howies is on November 12th.
- Room Parent: Kim McEvoy said we have parents for almost all classes and that the Room Parent meeting will most likely be next week Tuesday.
- School Store: First store is October 17th. Cart is going to be coming around to the grade level pods the year. Will not be in the lunchroom and will be held during Fun Fridays. You can purchase items with your paws tickets: 10 paws tickets = 1 item.
- ShoParoo: Karrie Brown said that Mohawk received the first check: \$400. This is a free fundraiser. Just download the app on your phone and take pictures of your shopping receipts.
- Sunshine Committee: Kelly stated that we sent out a card and pillow pet to a third grader who had a death in the family.
- Target: Sign up for the credit/debit card. Mohawk gets a % back.
- Vince & Joes: Karrie Brown said Mohawk gets 5% back so buy those gift cards.

During the Business portion of the meeting, the next PTO meeting was announced: October 21, 2014. Also, prizes were given away. The Ciranni Family would like to donate a "Buddy Bench" to be placed on the playground. A child can sit on the bench if they are feeling lonely and friends can come and invite them to play. There were comments/questions/suggestions: are there any changes to field trips? Ms. McVicar stated that the teachers pick the field trips. Usually the trips are picked according to the curriculum that they are currently teaching. There will be no 5th grade bowling trip this year. We will be getting a new program to replace IXL. We currently have IXL until November. The new program is called Mobymax and is less expensive. It also has more than math. It has reading and language arts.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.

The Budget portion of the meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm. Christina Makarov presented the budget items for the 2014-2015 school year. There were a few changes to some categories and Sian Lyons explained where and why. The meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Jennifer Mrozowski, Secretary