

Pleasant Avenue PTA Meeting

Monday, September 12 at 6:00pm, Pleasant Avenue library

Attendees: Deb Ammann, Pamela Donohue, Chris Lamori, Helen Reed, Karlene Peck, Elena Willett, Karen Miller, Monica Poitras, Rachel Truckenmiller, Jeff Vivenzio, Kristina Mraz, Deb Sepanara, Jen Sponnoble, Nadeen Rizzo, Lisa VanAernem, Daniele Matice, Michele Lake, Christina Hayes, Caroline Wagner, Karen Tyler, Patricia Lago, Louise Carville, Beth Edel

Thank you to Helen Reed who took notes until I figured out the meeting was at 6:00pm and not 6:30pm!

Beth Edel announced that she was looking for volunteers to help run the bookfair during the September 21 open house.

Introductions were made.

Presentation on technology in the classroom -- Mr. Westman did a presentation with the clickers for use in the classroom; the Mimio Vote system. Cost is \$1800 for 24 units and \$2000 for 32 units with a 3 year warranty and free updates and support. Any questions, just call or email Mr. Westman. The system works well with Brain Pop, new software the school district has.

School Banking – Pam Donohue reported that First Niagara no longer conducts school banking. SEFCU is now offering school banking and we will work with them as long as we can work out getting the deposit to Amsterdam. It was mentioned that Price Chopper used to be affiliated with SEFCU. Pam will check into this. Information will be sent home. Christina Hayes will be in charge of banking this year.

Proposed Budget presented by Monica Poitras, treasurer – Monica went over the entire budget, highlighting lines that had changed.

Sixth grade expenses have been broken down for clarity.

“Chick expenses” is money for Mrs. Johnson to conduct an incubation unit in fifth grade.

Missoula money is now Creative Arts. Money for Arts in Education is no longer available.

Mimeo will be increased to \$2000.

PA library fund is reallocated unused classroom funds from 2010-2011.

To make popcorn sales a self-sustaining project, 25% of sales will be allocated for supplies.

School banking will be decreased to \$150.

Teachers will need to request reimbursement for Saxon math food supplies. Mrs. Sepanara requested that “Saxon math” be taken out of the memo description and instead call it “curriculum specific”

Requests for additional money needs to be made before the full PTA.

Library baskets are okay, because the library is a non-profit (501-c3).

Money for post-prom will be discussed at the Central Council meeting.

Lisa VanAernem motioned to have t-shirts purchased for every 4th, 5th and 6th grader every year for the track meet. Cost would be approximated \$6 a t-shirt or \$1000 a year. Vote was taken 8-for, 10-against, 1-abstain. Motioned denied.

Motioned requested to approve budget with said changes. Unanimous-for. Motion approved.

Concern was voiced about the company that was used for the magazine sales for the spring fundraiser. This company will not be used again. Mentioned that school mall also sells magazine subscriptions.

Accelerated Reader – Karlene Peck reported that the BBQ fundraiser will be held on Friday, September 16 at Whitey's from 4-7. People are asked to bring individually bagged goodies to include with the meals. They can be dropped off at the school on that day. People will be able to purchase meals that day without tickets. The money raised will be going to next year's AR program.

Fun Fall Family Festival – Elena Willet reported that they are still trying to arrange a time for everyone from the different schools to meet. There is a sign-up sheet and a need for volunteers, so please sign up. Jansen Field has been reserved for the event which will be held on October 15 from noon to 4pm.

Popcorn Volunteers – The library is running the popcorn sales this week. Sign-up sheet in front.

Principal's Report – There are a lot of changes with the APPR (Annual Professional Performance Review). Currently 50% of the state is failing. Local numbers are not good. The state is shifting the common core standards. In a nutshell, there will be less breadth and more depth when it comes to curriculum. It will be a challenging year.

Parent Involvement Team has put together a Pleasant Avenue Survival Guide that will be distributed at the open house. Looking to do programming for parents this year.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm.

Respectfully submitted by Rachel Truckenmiller, secretary.