

PTO Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2008

Location: Deerfield Elementary School Library

Present: Beth Vander Grinten, Kelli Ezzell, Lesa Herms, Mark Becker, Kristin Leigh, Belinda Storms, Amie Martin, Sheryl Norton, Natalie Cwik, Patti Knapp, Kim Gjermo, Jennifer Larson, Sandy Fischer, Anna Ehrhart, Elizabeth Tebon, Amy Graves, Gail Moynihan, Karen Witt, Mary Winkler, Dawn Johnson, Jim Nelson, Julie Schifano, Valerie Bultman

Meeting Called To Order: 6:08 pm

Guest Speaker:

- Michelle Jensen – Food Service Update
 - Michelle Jensen came on behalf of Doreen Trueden, Food Service Mgr. (this is a ½ time position, Doreen is also Business Mgr). The discussion included:
 - ✓ Food Meal Structure & Federal Guidelines for School Meals
 - K-6 Food Portions are the same size, although younger grades may choose a smaller portion, they are also offered a full portion.
 - Each meal provided by the school must consist of five food groups. To be considered a full meal, they must have 3 of the food groups. Milk is considered one of the food groups. For example: If a student takes a carton of milk and a hot dog in a bun, this covers three of the food groups and is considered a complete meal.
 - ✓ Food Group Shortages
 - It was brought up by concerned parents at the meeting, that it is a frequent occurrence that the school runs out of certain items of food on the menu before the entire student body has been fed. This particularly affects the first grade and sixth grade as they alternate days as the last grade levels to eat. Complaints include:
 - Main entrée running out. Students have then been asked to wait sometimes in excess of 10 minutes to wait for the entrée to finish. In other situations, they are given a substitute entrée, versus the entrée listed on the menu. An example was given that on Tuesday 04/15 they had ran out of fruit and were running low on green beans and were shorting students a full serving of beans.
 - Getting low on portions and giving ½ servings versus full serving.
 - Cold food being served that should be served hot (ie: egg & cheese omelet or other food items that are served on top of the serving table versus being stored inside the serving table).
 - These concerns will be brought to Doreen's attention and addressed immediately.
 - The school policy is that there is NO seconds offered from food on the Entrée Table as this does not promote balanced nutrition. However, it was noted that students can go back to the cold bar that serves fresh fruit and raw vegetables for seconds. Parents commented that the students have never been made aware of this.
 - Doreen is available throughout the day if needed. Please contact her for any food service comments, suggestions or complaints.

Committee Reports:

- PTO Officers/Reports
 - Treasurer's Report – Belinda Storms
 - ✓ Balance as of 04/17/08 is \$6,352.03 in checking and \$2,200 in savings.
 - ✓ Remaining expenses are estimated at \$3,326.83 and remaining income is estimated at \$750.00. After allocating \$1,000 to savings account and \$1,000 to check book for carry over, the remaining funds available are estimated at \$1,775.20 for the 2007/2008 school year.
 - Market Day – Anna Ehrhart
 - ✓ No Report
 - Character Education Day – Patti Knapp
 - ✓ There are 18 volunteers needed for the games, contact Patti Knapp if you can help. Discussion included getting extra volunteers for the dunk tank to help control the lines and keep the students out of the “throwing” zone.
 - ✓ Dunk tank will be available again with Mark Becker organizing the volunteers to be dunked. The dunk tank will be one of the rotation spots for the students.
 - ✓ We will have apple slices for one of the snacks and Erik Witt's Kettle Corn as the 2nd snack. Parents will be sent home a “popcorn” form to purchase extra popcorn. Popcorn will be delivered to the classrooms.
 - ✓ Freeze Pops will be offered to all students following lunch as they enter the playground – aides to distribute as they enter the playground, one per student. Beth Vander Grinten will be purchasing the freeze pops.
 - ✓ Ice Cream Sundaes will be in the afternoon. Sunday cups being purchased through the school and Anna Ehrhart purchasing the toppings.
 - Teacher Appreciation Week – Beth Vander Grinten
 - ✓ The week is April 28th through May 2nd.
 - ✓ Help is needed for decorating the school on Sunday, April 27th. Those able to help can contact Beth, Natalie or Peggy.
 - ✓ We are providing food on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, those interested in making a contribution can contact Beth to sign-up.
- Principals Report – Mark Becker
 - Health Fair is May 1st for grade 4-6, graded K-3 will be having a presentation on May 8th from Alliant Engery.
 - Young Authors Day is May 16th. Discussion briefly included on whether the PTO will fund this in future. NOTE: See more discussion under Budget.
 - WKCE Snacks – The PTO utilized the parent calling tree to have these snacks be donated. Discussion included that this was labor intensive with a very poor response and/or follow through by parents. Discussion included if the PTO continues to fund this to give up to \$200 and have Mr. Peerenboom or Mrs. Hruby purchase the necessary items for snacks. This will fall under the budget discussion for continued discussion.
- Teacher Representative Report – Kristin Leigh
 - Laura Peacock (2nd Grade Teacher), could not be present, but is very interested in reading the meeting minutes. It was noted that all meeting minutes from 2005/2006, 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 are available on the School District website under DES PTO.
 - Darnell Reppen is coordinating a third book fair May 19-23rd. All books are being offered for ½ price. Volunteers are needed, please contact Darnell direct if you are able to volunteer for a shift.

- London Bridges Preschool is having an Open House on Sunday, April 20th from 1:00pm-3:00pm. For 2008/2009 they are offering ½ day classes in the morning on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays for children ages 3-5.
- New Business
 - Gail Moynihan spoke on behalf of the Deerfield Public Library. She is the Youth Services Librarian. They have received a Math, Sports and Fitness Grant and she is looking for ideas and suggestions on how to use the grant.
- Old Business
 - Book Fair – Darnell Reppen
 - ✓ There will be a 3rd Scholastic Book Fair being offered with ALL books being offered at ½ price. Volunteers needed for this book fair, please contact Darnell Reppen if you are able to help.
 - Santa Secret Shop – Valerie Bultman
 - ✓ Discussion was brought up again on continuing this program. At a prior meeting it was decided by parents to not renew the contract for the 2008/2009 school year until the parents could be polled by a survey as to whether this should be continued or not as the discussion at that meeting was about 50% for keeping it and 50% for discontinuing it. After this meeting, the contract was signed because so that if it was continued, this would ensure that we would have the electronic scanner with cash register, however, the contract was signed with the stipulation we have until October to cancel without penalty. Discussion also included that the survey to parents needs to be sent out to poll the parents before a final decision would be made and Kelli Ezzell is drafting that survey. The first draft of the survey was created, but not sent out as it fell in the same time frame as the CAC community survey. The first draft also included polling the parents about where they would like to see the PTO utilize their funds. Kelli will be working on this survey/poll.
- Other
 - Budget
 - ✓ Prior to the Discussion, a letter was read by a PTO member unable attend, it mentions the district's budget problems and attempts to correct them through a referendum. It references PTO budget comes from "hard work of its parents and teachers" the letter further supports using the PTO money to help supply the extras for our teachers and our children. It also opposes taking money away from our existing budget without a clear agreed upon plan as to where the money will go. It concludes with "keeping the PTO money for that which it is intended for and that is the parents, teachers, and students."
 - ✓ **NOTE:** The current 2007/2008 budget was discussed with comments made in most areas of current expenditures. Nothing has been decided regarding how to proceed, the meeting was used as discussion only. The following items were discussed:
 - Enrichments
 - Discussion included continuing at current level or scaling back. Nothing was determined.
 - Teacher Appreciation Week
 - Discussion included what is included in this week. This covers one entire week of activities for teachers/staffs/students, decorations for the school, small gifts for entire staff, luncheon, and prizes for daily themes, etc. This event is appreciated by the

staff and the PTO has received notes by more than ½ of the staff in support of this. It was suggested to have parents contribute money to fund this, however, it was pointed out that we already ask parents to contribute towards a care package item. We spend a lot of money on this, however, it was pointed out that this is a five day event and covers over 60 staff. Should we skip it or continue it? Nothing was determined.

- Young Authors Day
 - Discussion included last year was a storyteller versus an author and not typical of past presenters. It was suggested to write a grant to get some of these funded. Dawn Johnson volunteered to take a grant writing course to learn how to write grants for some of the things we fund.

✓ Some suggestions were made on where we could spend our money. **NOTE:** This was discussion only and no decisions were made. Those suggestions included:

- New Text Books
- Music Scholarships
- Talented & Gifted Program

- Mary Winkler thanked the DES PTO for allowing the MS/HS PTO to do the September Market Day to raise money for their group. It was brought up as a suggestion that maybe the Elementary PTO and MS/HS PTO should join forces. **NOTE:** Following the meeting, an email was sent to the MS/HS PTO regarding this and the reply indicated that that each group serves different purposes and it would not be a good idea to combine the two.

➤ Adjourn – 8:45 pm (estimated time)

Quick Contact Reference – PTO Members:

Name	Phone Number	Email
Bartenhagen, SuAnn	764-8712	bartcsh@cs.com
Becker, Mark	764-5442 ext 5201	beckerm@deerfield.k12.wi.us
Brown, Nathan & Joyce	764-5525	icbrown@chorus.net
Bultman, Val	764-8418	rvbult@charter.net
Chua, Pat	764-8264	chuap@deerfield.k12.wi.us
Collar, Becky	764-8737	rcollar@charter.net
Cwik, Natalie	764-1423	Natalie@tenaciousacres.com
Duffy, Carolyn	655-4144	duffy@merr.com
Dunsirn, Alyssa	764-1444	dunsirn@verizon.net
Ehrhart, Anna	764-8561	Bradybunch68@verizon.net
Elementary School	764-5442	www.deerfield.k12.wi.us
Ezzell, Kelli	764-2092, 577-9250	
Fischer, Sandy	764-8184	J4fischer@aol.com
Galla, Deb	764-3021	mdgalla@netzero.com
Graves, Amy		agraves@amfam.com
Haak, Evonne	212-9491	evonnehaak@yahoo.com
Herms, Lesa	764-5808	ljherms@e-trux.com
Higgins, Denise	764-2673	Moonstruck65@verizon.net
High School	764-5431	www.deerfield.k12.wi.us
Hilsenhoff, Mary	764-5034	Mahil17@yahoo.com
Johnson, Dawn	764-5698	lstwrd@charter.net
Kidd, Allison	764-2824	akidd@merr.com
Knapp, Patti	764-8465	mpknapp@chorus.net
Lamphere, Tracy	764-8519	thebeyler@aol.com
Larson, Laura	764-1490	laurajlarson@cs.com
Leigh, Kristin	764-5152	leighk@deerfield.k12.wi.us
Lokken, Dawn		Ericdawn21@aol.com
Mickelson, Sara	333-1299	Linked7@msn.com
Moynihan, Gail	764-8640	moyni@chorus.net
Nelson, Barb	764-8588	Nelsonmb2@verizon.net
Norton, Sheryl	764-8254	norton5@charter.net
Poirier, Molly	239-8494	poirierm@deerfield.k12.wi.us
Pope, Peggy	646-0338	eschpope@msn.com
Reppen, Darnell	764-5442 x 5208	reppend@deerfield.k12.wi.us
Roades, Jen	764-9905	
Saladino, Brett	764-1616	Asdf2231@charter.net
Sanger, Vicky	577-3019	Rpinvestments1@verizon.net
Sanoy, Becky	764-1575	psanoy@aol.com
Schifano, Julie	764-3334	jaschifano@charterinternet.com
Sheets, Joan	655-4374	joansheets@yahoo.com
Staszak, Kristy	764-2660	kreff@wildblue.net
Stevens, Jen	764-2920	jfstevens@charter.net
Storms, Belinda	764-8456	storms5@verizon.net
Tebon, Elizabeth	764-2710	tebone@deerfield.k12.wi.us
Tetzlaff, Jan	764-2683	iltetz@verizon.net
Tolmie, Meg	764-5319	megtolmie@verizon.net

Vander Grinten, Beth	764-8593	beth@slackattack.com
Wee, Michele	764-5588	micwee@msn.com
Wild, Kristin	764-1556	Kristin@wildrealtor.com
Witt, Erik & Karen	764-3232	witt@coolbluekitty.com
Winkler, Mary	764-5398	Marywinkler@verizon.net
Zander, Monica	239-4130	mlzander@wisc.edu