## PTO Meeting Minutes February 11, 2008

**Location:** Deerfield Elementary School Library

**Present:** Beth Vander Grinten, Kelli Ezzell, Lesa Herms, Mark Becker, Kristin Leigh, Belinda Storms, Sheryl Norton, Natalie Cwik, Patti Knapp, Carolyn Duffy, Monica Zander

Meeting Called To Order: 6:37 pm

## **Committee Reports:**

- > PTO Officers/Reports
  - Treasurer's Report Belinda Storms
    - $\checkmark$  Balance as of 02/11/08 is \$6,443.12 in checking and \$4,200 in savings.
    - ✓ Note: These balances do not include the \$2,099 yet to be paid to the DES for the climbing wall.
  - Enrichment Committee Carolyn Duffy
    - ✓ Upcoming Enrichments are:
      - February 27<sup>th</sup> Karate America at 1:00pm (grades 4-6) and 1:50pm (grades K-3)
      - March 14<sup>th</sup> Irish Dancers at 1:30pm
      - March 20<sup>th</sup> Whitewater Wheel Chair Basketball
      - May 1<sup>st</sup> Health Fair (Grades 4-6)
      - \*\* Need to schedule Alliant Energy for grades K-3 \*\*
      - May Young Authors Day
    - ✓ Discussion included purchasing Subway gift cards for presenters of the Health Fair instead of providing lunch. This will come out of the enrichment budget allotted for this event.
  - Market Day Beth reporting on Anna's behalf
    - ✓ The Market Day Committee is looking to purchase additional Market Day signs
      to post on the day of the event as reminders for pick-up. These signs could be
      purchased directly through the Market Day program. No information was
      available at the meeting on the cost of the signs or the quantity needed.
      Discussion tabled until next meeting.
  - Santa Secret Shop
    - ✓ For the first time in three years we broke even and actually made a profit. This was due to the abundance of volunteers as well as a new cash register system. The cash register system will automatically account for a 5% profit. As a result, we made a profit of \$243.86 this year.
    - ✓ A huge discussion followed again as to whether or not we should proceed with Santa Secret Shop or not. The contract renewal is due. The members present were divided as to whether or not to continue or cancel. It was decided that we would NOT sign a new contract until we could poll the parents and staff. Discussion tabled until the results of the poll are received. Kelli Ezzell will draft the poll and send out with the monthly PTO newsletter.
  - Teacher Appreciation Week Beth Vander Grinten
    - ✓ The date has been tentatively set for the week of April 28<sup>th</sup> with a "hot" theme planned, more details to follow.
    - ✓ Carolyn Duffy suggested cutting the teacher appreciation budget and use the money elsewhere. Discussion continued that the PTO is not currently at a

shortfall and has enough money in the budget to fund all of the existing activities and still have extra money at the end of the year. It was also mentioned that a few years ago the budgets were reviewed and a motion made to maintain the current funding of activities utilizing the previous years budget for each consecutive year. It was decided the PTO will review all budgets for each activity that we fund at a future meeting (date to be determined).

- ✓ A request made by Beth Vander Grinten for \$150-\$175 to fund an all school Root Beer Float party for the students and staff.
  - Motion made by Peggy Pope for \$175 to fund and all school root beer float party, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Natalie Cwik. Discussion included utilizing the Teacher Appreciation Week fund for this. The Teacher Appreciation week fund covers an entire week of activities as well as 60+ staff. We would not do the Root Beer Float party if it needed to come out of the Teacher Appreciation Week fund. All approved – Motion Passes.
- Character Education Day Patti Knapp
  - ✓ Date yet to be determined.
  - ✓ We will again have the dunk tank. Discussion included using a dunk tank from an alternate source for free. The previous company included insurance in rental, however, it was discussed this isn't needed as the school has insurance to cover the liability.

### Principals Report – Mark Becker

- Climbing Wall Funds are in and there is enough to cover both the climbing wall, cover and installation.
  - √ \$750 Fischer Family Donation
  - ✓ \$750 Trust Fund Match
  - √ \$2,000 DES PTO
  - √ \$2.000 Village Match

### > Teacher Representative Report – Kristin Leigh

Market Day is sponsored by the 6<sup>th</sup> grade on February 28<sup>th</sup> and they are in need of parent volunteers. Discussion included Beth sending out a mass email to the PTO distribution list soliciting volunteers for this date.

#### New Business

 Character Education – Suggestions made to add a theme a month with parental involvement in character education. Possibly T-shirts with student hand prints or Friday dress-up days. NOTE: we are looking for more suggestions on this topic.

#### Old Business

- Book Fair Darnell Reppen
  - ✓ The Scholastic Book Fair will be held in conjunction with Teacher Conferences. Volunteers needed, please contact Darnell Reppen if you are able to help.

#### Other

 Parking/Pick-up after school – this continues to be a problem and parents expressed continued concerns about how to better improve this, while still maintaining the safety of our students. Discussion tabled.

# **Quick Contact Reference – PTO Members:**

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