

PTO Meeting Minutes (revised)

March 13, 2006

Location: Deerfield Elementary School Library

Present: Kelli Ezzell, Meg Tolmie, Beth Vander Grinten, Sheryl Norton, Natalie Cwik, Kristin Leigh, Dawn Johnson, Molly Poirier, Darnell Reppen, Mary Winkler, Elizabeth Tebon, Belinda Storms, Carolyn Duffy, and Anna Ehrhart

Meeting Called to Order: 6:40 pm

Committee Reports:

➤ PTO Officers/Reports

▪ Treasurer's Report – Belinda Storms

- ✓ Balance as of 03/13/06 is \$6,743.73 in checking and \$1,000.00 in savings.
- ✓ Market Day Profits.

- Market Day made a \$368.34 profit for December. Bridges fully staffed this Market Day. Discussion continued on whether Bridges was going to get the entire profit, or if they would get only the share that a classroom would get if they manned it.

- Motion made by Meg Tolmie that Bridges receive the entire portion of the profit for the December 2005 Market Day in the amount of \$368.34, 2nd by Belinda Storms. All approved – Motion passes.
- Discussion included that this would be a good idea to help Bridges. All Classes have (or will have) had a Market Day by the end of the school year. Further discussion included that Bridges taking a month of Market Day was only approved for the 2005/2006 school year.

- Market Day discussion continued. It was brought up that each month, the sponsoring class only received \$40 to split amongst the three classrooms and should this be increased because this rate is extremely low.

- Motion made by Sheryl Norton to increase the amount that the sponsoring grade receives to \$75, starting with the 2006/2007 school year, 2nd by Dawn Johnson. Discussion started with a big THANK YOU by the teachers present, further discussion included that we have not increased this amount in quite a few years, and it was probably long overdue. All approved – Motion passes.

✓ Santa Secret Shop Profit/Loss recap

- Belinda wanted to clarify the Treasurer's report from February because of her absence. It may have appeared that Santa Secret Shop made money, but in fact, it lost money. We lost over \$51.28. **NOTE:** This amount does not reflect the true losses, because we receive a 4% discount on product due to ordering so far in advance. Therefore, to truly reflect how much we actually lost, you need to factor the 4% discount as a loss, plus the \$51.28, therefore putting our losses over \$200.

- Discussion continued on how this happened and what went wrong.

- Many students who brought money, went home with a bagful of presents, but also brought all of their money back home. Many honest parents sent the money back to school, otherwise our losses would have been much greater than they currently were.

- Lack of organization seemed to be a key contributor. Not enough volunteers present, although some parents who indicated a willingness to help were never called. The set-up was not right. The bagging of each individual item was consuming a majority of the volunteers time.
 - Discussion continued on how we can prevent this from happening again.
 - More volunteers are needed for each shift.
 - Parents, students and teachers need more notice of the dates of the event.
 - Each item will not be bagged separately. The items will go into one bag and the student can take additional bags for wrapping if needed, but the volunteers will not bag each item separately.
 - Parents are sending too much money. Many students came with checks in the \$50 range.
 - Meg Tolmie volunteered to Co-Chair the 2006 Santa Secret Shop with Val Bultman.
- ✓ Enrichments – There is a discrepancy in the check that the PTO wrote out for Professor Numbers. The original schedule provided to the PTO indicated the cost as \$380. The actual amount requested was for \$469. This is a difference of <\$89.00>. Val was not present to address this.
- Teacher Appreciation Week –Beth Vander Grinten
 - ✓ The date is tentatively set for the week of April 24-28.
 - ✓ The theme has been picked and we are looking for volunteers to help with this great event – please contact Beth Vander Grinten 764-8593 if you would like to help.
 - ✓ Due to the teachers present, we wanted to keep some information a surprise, please contact Beth if you want more details.
- Character Education Day – Patti Knapp (not present at meeting)
 - ✓ Date tentatively scheduled for Friday, June 2nd.
 - Discussion included keeping the ice cream cups again. Patti was not present, but PTO will have her look into the ice cream cups again.
 - Discussion included possibly adding an air inflated bouncy machine or a obstacle course. The cost ranges between \$189-\$379 depending on which one is used. The consensus seemed to be that keeping it simple and fun by using the resources at hand would be more beneficial to all students. There was also a concern about not all students being able to utilize the air inflated machines. Discussion tabled.
- Kidz School Kits – New Chair Dawn Johnson
 - ✓ We would like to continue the Kidz School Kits. This is not a profit maker for PTO, but rather a convenience for parents. Dawn Johnson will chair this.
 - Dawn will contact past chair (Jodell Quamme) for the information and contact Kidz right away for appropriate forms and deadlines.
 - Dawn will be in contact with Teacher Representative – Kristin Leigh so that the teachers can compile their “school needs list.”
 - Update will be provided by April meeting.

- Enrichments
 - ✓ Enrichment Committee – Committee has been developed with two additional parent/PTO members as well as two teachers representing the DES. The enrichment committee consists of: Kristin Leigh, Randy Smith, Val Bultman, Carolyn Duffy and Kelli Ezzell.

- Craft Fair
 - ✓ Motion made by Lesa Herms via phone conversation during the February meeting to amend the November Rate Change motion – Amended motion is as follows: for the rates to be increased by \$5 (\$40 Booth price) for the 2006 Craft Fair, contracts received by August 1 will receive a discounted Booth price of \$35. Discussion continued. Amended motion had been tabled from the February meeting and needed a 2nd and vote. This motion was 2nd by Natalie Cwik. All approved – amended motion passes.
 - ✓ Discussion included that the Craft Fair needs to be on the April agenda so that booth prices can be determined for the 2006 craft fair so that we can meet all deadlines with booth price chosen.

Principals Report:

- DES Principal Chris Hibner – Not Present at Meeting – Kelli Ezzell Reporting
 - Pay Phone
 - ✓ The phone is expected to be installed soon.
 - Bench and Litter Receptacle previously purchased by PTO – when are they going to be installed?
 - ✓ They are currently in storage. As soon as the ground is available for installation, they will be installed this Spring.

Teacher Representative Report:

- DES Teacher Kristin Leigh
 - Kidz School Kits – Kristin will work jointly with PTO chair Dawn Johnson and proceed so that we can again offer this to students.

New Business:

- Bridges meets with PTO Co-Chairs
 - PTO Co-Chairs met with Jackie Schmitt and Jackie Schuh to discuss upcoming event and Fade to Black.
 - The topics include: bullying, making friends, acceptance, and stress. “Fade to Black” (which is a Social Improv Group) is only a very small portion of the day and is focused on 6th grade issues. Bridges is currently creating their own group to take on the road.
 - Bridges, DMS/DHS PTO and Joining Forces with Families all endorse this program. The DES PTO has also agreed to endorse this program.
 - One of the speakers, Mike McGowan, will be staying for an evening presentation following this event on April 26th. The parent presentation will be from 6:30-8:30 pm and childcare will be provided

- Health Fair – Carolyn Duffy
 - Date tentatively set for April 20th.
 - There will be six stations:
 - ✓ Gymtastics – Obstacle Course
 - ✓ Karate America – Bullying
 - ✓ Doctor Doug Wilson, Pediatric Dentist – Dental Hygiene
 - ✓ UW Extension – Nutrition

- ✓ St. Mary's Hospital – Healthy Heart
- ✓ UW Health - Safety
- Discussion included that this date conflicts with the 4th grade as they will be on their Chicago Field Trip. The Kindergarten (who were thought to be gone that day) will now be able to attend. Barb Bendall (school nurse) will be contacted, but due to the volunteers coordinated for the day, it may not be possible to change the date.
- Carolyn requested that the PTO either have parent volunteers provide lunch for the volunteer educators OR pay for food to be brought in. Parents present at the PTO meeting volunteered to supply lunch for the volunteer educators:
 - ✓ Water – Elizabeth Tebon
 - ✓ Juice – Lesa Herms
 - ✓ BBQ – Belinda Storms
 - ✓ Buns – Kristin Leigh
 - ✓ Pasta Salad – Beth Vander Grinten
 - ✓ Chips – Dawn Johnson
 - ✓ Dessert – Carolyn Duffy
- The health fair has solicited donations from other resources to cover the cost of a “healthy snack and healthy beverage” for all students attending. The donations will not cover the entire cost. The Health Fair is asking for the PTO to help cover the cost. Discussion included that we would help out with this cost, but we need a dollar amount. This request will be formalized at the April meeting once a cost is determined.

Old Business:

- Free trees from McKay nursery – we have filled out the appropriate paperwork to qualify for these free trees.
- Grant deadline – we are applying for a grant for \$5,000 to help cover the cost of a school sign. The paperwork is ready to submit for the March 15th deadline.
- PTO meeting signs – more research is needed. The sign company contacted said we need to order a minimum of 50 signs at a cost of \$250. Anna will look into getting some “free” signs.

Other:

- Spring Concert March 23rd at 7:00pm. Requesting PTO to provide Coffee & Cups – Meg Tolmie will coordinate.
- Kindergarten Visitation – Date has been moved to May 11-12. Market Day will provide a few Markey Day “samples.” If needed, PTO will contact parents to supply some baked goods. Discussion included having a PTO representative available to explain who and what our PTO does and encourage parents to become involved with the DES PTO.
- April PTO meeting
 - April 10, 2006. Meeting will be at 6:30 pm at the DES, enter off of Liberty Street. Babysitting will be provided Free of Charge.

Meeting Adjourned – 7:53 pm

Respectfully submitted by Beth Vander Grinten,