

Mount Horeb

PTO Minutes

Thursday, January 20, 2011

Those in attendance:

Cheryl Fritzlo
Cecilia Beisler
Karen Carapezzi
Celeste Campos
Bonnie Lavoie

Lora Sedlak
Pat Levine
Gladden Falivene
Francine Bernstein
Lori Weiss

Jodi Scheiner
Mr. Kimmick
Kathy Winter

Meeting called to order at 9:35am by Presidents, Cheryl Fritzlo & Karen Carapezzi.

President's Report, Cheryl Fritzlo & Karen Carapezzi:

1. **Smart Boards** – 1st Grade will receive Smart Boards from the PTO at a cost of \$11,000
2. **Crazy Clothing Sale** – Mt. Horeb clothing is 30% off. PTO to “eblast” the teachers so that they are aware of the sale. Posters of the clothing will be posted on the office door to remind parents and students of the sale. In the spring we would like to do a “Pajama Day / School Spirit Day”.
3. **Cultural Arts, Mayhem Poets** – Friday January 21, 2011.
4. **Minute to Win It, Sat Feb 5th** – PTO is looking for donations to give as prizes at the event. The games will be free and set up in the APR and gym. To participate in the final round, participants must purchase \$1 raffle tickets, the names who are drawn from the raffle will compete in the final round. All proceeds raised will be given to Operation Shoebox.
5. **Bingo Day, March 19th** – PTO Chairperson for this event is moving to Florida so we are currently looking for her replacement. PTO Executive Board will chair the Bingo Day.
6. **Operation Shoebox, March 23rd** – The school is currently accepting donations. We will be working with Shop Rite again for some donations. We would like to send one box per student to the troops. At a cost of about \$6 per box for shipping, we will need to raise approximately \$1800. To get kids involved at home, Mr Kimmick has suggested doing a coin drive where kids could donate 4 quarters per week. The kids could earn these quarters by doing chores or something at home to earn the money for donations. The PTO will support the rest.
7. **Jump Rope Contest, February 9, 16, 23rd** – We will need volunteers to help with this.
8. **9/11 Memorial Fund** – So far the school has raised \$236 towards the Memorial. The goal is to raise \$1,000 from all schools in Warren and have a plaque in honor of “The Children of Warren.”
9. **March PTO Meeting, Dr. Crader Budget Discussion** – PTO would like to do an evening meeting in an effort to increase parent involvement and attendance at the meeting. Date to be determined, looking at Thurs March 24th; it needs to be on an evening that doesn't conflict with recreation programs.

Board of Education Vice President, Mrs. Kathy Winter:

Mrs. Winter discussed the upcoming Budget deliberations. The most the Board can increase the tax levy is by 2%. There is money in Capital Reserves, but that money can only be spent on school improvements. The major things that are going to affect the budget are things like the Teacher Contracts and Governor Christie and what kind of funding he may or may not extend to the schools.

There is a Board of Education Meeting on Monday January 24th. The meeting agenda includes a discussion on the Budget Deliberations, Mandarin Program and the Curriculum Committee Report on World Language, Guidance and REACH. Mrs. Winter commented on the rumors that are circulating regarding Full Day Kindergarten, and she reinforced that nothing has been formally determined.

Principal's Message, Mr. Kimmick:

1. **Full Day Kindergarten** – Kindergarten registration for 2011-12 is currently under way at the school, we have 30 enrolled to this point. We are not sure what the numbers will be for enrollment next year but it seems they will be similar to this year. The Lollipop screening will be completed in April. Mrs. Stoyanov will be going on Maternity leave and she is hoping to be able to teach up until May. Mrs. Howell will be her substitute for the maternity leave.
2. **Operation Shoebox** – Sargent Lainier came into the school to do a school assembly and talked about what life is like for the troops. He reminded the students that it's a lot like going away to camp and how hard it is to be away from home and how much you miss your family.
3. **Giving Gardens** – Mr. Kimmick is meeting with Wagner Farm today to discuss. The 5th graders will prepare the gardens as part of their Service Projects.
4. **Valentine's Day** – The Food guidelines policy was discussed and it was decided that for Valentine's Day, we are asking that candy not be attached to the Valentines, but certain kinds of candy could come to school. Mr. Kimmick will also send out a note to parents reminding them of the school policy with regards to "foods of minimal nutritional value that are never allowed to be served at school" ie. Foods that list the first ingredient as sugar.

Meeting adjourned 10:20am.