

PTA Meeting Minutes for Thursday, October 4, 2007

Introduction:

The meeting was called to order at 9am at the Hollywood School gym. PTA board members in attendance were Laura Tracy, Kathy Barcal, Lisa Buffo, Kierith Kurth, and Jennifer Perry. PTA Treasurer Denise Notz was absent. Also attending was Hollywood principal Vicki DeVylde, District 96 Superintendent Jon Lamberson and 5 others.

PTA President Laura Tracy began the meeting by inviting attendees to indulge in the Lindt chocolates she had brought.

Recording Secretary Report:

The minutes from the Thursday, September 7, 2007 meeting were passed out and no corrections were noted. A motion to approve them was made and seconded.

Treasurer s Report:

Denise Notz provided the September Treasurer's report. Laura Tracy presented the report, which was accepted.

Corresponding Secretary s Report:

Keirith Kurth reported on September activity. She sent birthday cards to Judy Johnson and Joe Zboinski.

The Hollywood PTA received numerous contributions to the Bette Immel Kayse Fund for Cultural Arts. The total as of 10/3/07 is close to \$3,500.

Various thank you notes were received in September, including thank you notes from the kindergarten for the Hollywood t-shirts, a note from Patty Gill thanking the PTA for its contribution to reception following 9/25 faculty recital, and notes from Jenny Barhorst, Ryan Bookler, Megan Corcoran, Vicki DeVylde, Alison LaFalce, Jean Mathis, Linda Schirmer, Rita Socco, Brian Trimmer, Kelly Zeleny for PTA yearly gifts.

School News:

Ms. DeVylde announced two new staff members. Ken Krozel is the new day custodian, replacing Miss Linda, who has returned to Central. Mary Potts is the new paraprofessional for the third grade.

Hollywood is working on cross grade grouping for reading. First, second, and third graders will be broken into groups by reading level. This allows five staff members: Mrs. Barhorst, Mrs. Johnson, Miss LaFalce, Ms. Judy Johnson, and Mrs. Kustok to work with the children to improve reading skills. Plans are in the works to start the

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program with fourth and fifth graders. The program gives the district the opportunity to have an authentic reading assessment. A child reads and a teacher listens to the child's oral retelling to better assess comprehension. Hollywood is the pilot program for the district. This is an opportunity for the district to get a better feel where students really are versus a standardized test. The program should be up and running in a few weeks. Once the reading program is up and running, there are plans to introduce a math program as well.

The school improvement day scheduled for Friday is part of the district initiative promoting collaborative work with teachers kindergarten thru fifth grade. The focus will be on integrating technology to enhance student engagement, such as using Goggle Earth to enrich geography lessons.

In December, Ms. DeVylder expects to present goals for school improvement specific to Hollywood School.

There are 26 students enrolled in chess. Three more 8-week sessions are planned for this school year.

Parent/Teacher conferences scheduled for October 12 are by invitation only. Forms will be coming home in the next day or two.

Report cards and MAPS scores will be given to parents at November parent/teacher conferences. Several parents expressed the desire to be given report cards in advance of the conferences. Also expressed was the concern that there would not be enough time to look at report cards for the first time, go over MAPS scores, and discuss any other issues with teachers within the twenty minute time constraint of the conference. Dr. Lamberson took these concerns under advisement. The reason for the delay in releasing report cards was to avoid a cut date significantly earlier than the conference. The report cards won't look different, except there will be three columns for trimesters rather than the two semester report cards of the past. It is the intention of District 96 to eventually move to electronic report cards.

Teachers are still getting information on how to use MAPS information. The individual student report charting progress should be shared with parents at November conferences.

Students will probably take MAPS again in April.

Because there are AM and PM kindergarten classes in the district, Hollywood students will not have Kindergarten on October 12, February 15 and May 1st. Those days are half days and PM kindergarten students will attend in the AM on those days. No enrichment will be held on those days so that there is equity within the district.

Ms. DeVylder is waiting to hear from Bill Radke, the director of maintenance for District 96 regarding the district landscape plan. The PTA can go ahead with the planning stage

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for the proposed rain garden as there appears to be no conflict between the PTA's plans and the district.

District News:

Dr. Lamberson was in attendance and presented district news. The current student population is 1,373. The district is running out of space. Eight or nine sections may be needed per grade. Proposed enrollment solutions include a possible kindergarten center, trailers, increasing class size, or moving fifth grade to Central. The demographer hired by the Board of Education is going to make enrollment projections seven years out.

Diversity is increasing in the district. The ratio is 3:1 majority to minority. Out of that number, the ratio is 2:1 Hispanic to another minority.

60% of the teachers in the district are non-tenured.

JC Penny's and Carson Pirie Scott at North Riverside Park Mall have won property tax appeals for tax years 2000 and 2001. The district will lose \$435,000 next school year. That dollar amount is expected to increase.

Reading and Math ISAT scores are up in the district.

Dr. Lamberson has a residency hearing to attend later in the day.

Committee Reports

Ecology Club:

Permission slips went home yesterday. Ecology Club will be focusing on people becoming more ecologically responsible and ways for the school to be involved, such as making recycling containers available. Riverside Brookfield High School has asked its PTA for help with providing students with aluminum water bottles. A filling station would be available in the lunchroom. This is an idea that would possibly work at Hollywood.

Fall Festival:

This event is being chaired by Fran Guerrieri. The festival will be held on Saturday, October 13 from 12-4. Volunteers are desperately needed to run games, sell refreshments, man the prize table, and sell tickets. There are a lot of holes in the work schedule. Room parents are being asked to contact parents and fill specific slots. Schedules will go home next week.

Wee Deliver:

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The first Wee Deliver will be on October 11th. Address sheets went home. An e-mail reminder will be sent out. Letters will be delivered around lunchtime instead of before school to give people extra time.

Spanish:

Jennifer Perry reported that Spanish classes will resume October 15th. So far, 22 students have enrolled. A level one class and a level two class will be offered. A kindergarten program is in the works.

SCRIP:

Jennifer Perry will introduce a new computer based ordering system but parents will still need to get checks into the office. Weekly forms will still be sent out for the time being. Jennifer is hoping to start taking orders after Columbus Day.

Market Day:

Hollywood School was successful in its effort to earn \$400 in free Scholastic Books. It was noted that half the people who order from Market Day don't have a child at Hollywood.

New Business:

Halloween Program:

Jeff Akins, the bubble guy will entertain on Halloween.

Library Advisory Board Survey:

Jennifer Perry is on the Brookfield Library Advisory Board, which is working toward building a new Brookfield Public Library. A survey about library usage and services will be mailed out in November or December to Brookfield residents.

Hollywood Breakfast Club:

Laura Tracy proposed an informal once a month gathering for Hollywood parents.

Old Business:

Bette Kayse Memorial Fund/Project:

The PTA has received \$3,500 in donations thus far. The PTA hopes to have a presentation ready in time for Founders Day for the rain and sculpture garden. The PTA plans on getting a brick to honor Bette Kayse for the brick walkway.

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PTA Membership:

71 families have joined the PTA this year.

Announcements:

Next Thursday, Laura Meehan and Linda Maher-Osowski will visit classrooms to talk about the Reflections program.

Yearbook chairmen Paul Rurka, Bob Barcal, and Robin Dunleavy ask that people send them pictures immediately after an event.

The National Committee of Grandparents for Children's Rights and the GranFamilies of Greater Chicago aid grandparents, aunts and uncles raising children. For more information about the organizations, visit www.grandparentsforchildren.org. The organization collects children's clothing. Plans are being made for a box to be placed in the front of the school during November's "Show You Care" program.

10/11 - Wee Deliver

10/13 - Fall Festival noon – 4pm

10/15 & 10/29 - Hot Lunch

10/16 - Ecology Club 3:10-4pm

10/16 - Board of Education Meeting @Hollywood 7:30 p.m.

10/19 - Family Movie Night 6-9pm

10/26 - 5th grade games night 7-8:30pm

10/29 - Pajama Day

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57am.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Jennifer Perry, Recording Secretary.