

General PA Minutes February 25, 2010

Prior minutes were reviewed and approved.

Administration didn't attend tonight because of the weather.

Committee Reports

Fundraising- Will continue to sell tickets until the concert. Over 50% of the tickets have been sold. Francesca provided flyers so that parents can place them in their buildings, laundry room. Tickets will be sold at the door. Adele encouraged everyone to try to advertise this because 100% of the proceeds will go to the school.

Movie Night- The gross is \$2094 since we don't know the expenses yet. Proceeds will go towards Bent on Learning.

SLT- James said that they heard from two school support organizations so that they can choose a new support network. They received about 500 surveys which is about 65% return rate.

Friends of 187- Elise reported about the fundraiser, it raised \$27,000 about three times the amount as last year. Thanks to all those who helped. Talking to Administration to fund STEM (Science and Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

African Library Project- Aryn Chapman is organizing a book collection of K-8 starting in March. Would like to collect 1000 gently used books for children in Swaziland and will need to collect \$1000 to cover the shipping costs. The books will be used to create two libraries in Swaziland. An questions, you can email arynchapman@gmail.com. Will need volunteers to help pack books and on March 12 will have a celebration to end this library project with drumming, people bringing their books and donations. Money donations should be addressed to Ms. Neidish. If writing a check, make it payable to PS/IS 187 and in the memo section put African Library Project.

Upcoming events

Look out for flyers of the Parent teacher conference on 3/15 and 3/16. The PA will present a check for \$17,672.79 for the Teacher's Wish List. On 3/15 will be the Staff Appreciation Dinner. We need volunteers to cook.

On Friday, April 16th is the International Dinner being provided by the Cultural Affairs PA subcommittee. Will need parents to cook cultural dishes as well as bring cultural items to display. Also planning interactive games and activities. Another event is Multilingual story telling. Where the same story is told in different languages. This event is free. Will need people to help out during the event. Will recruit class reps to help promote the event. Barbara will go to each class to let children know. Door prizes will be available.

Saturday April 24th is Schoolapalooza

"Kids Fit in the Heights", Saturday May 22nd is the Health Fair. Location will be the schoolyard. Planning committee is March 8th at 6-6:30pm at the school cafeteria for anyone who wants to attend and become a volunteer should attend the next planning committee. This is a community event, so we encourage all to attend.

Nominating Committee- a committee is needed to set up the elections of the PA Board and 2 SLT members. Need three volunteers, if you are a volunteer, you can't run for any position. Job consists of

getting flyers out, coordinating the volunteers to cover the three voting times in May. James Goldwasser, Ivelisse Suarez-Levine and Philip Yanos volunteered.

Teachers' Wish list- Francesca Di Mauro presented this year's list and discussion ensued. Some items on the list included classroom supplies which could be taken care of by individual parents or classes via the Class Parent Reps. Francesca encourages that class reps should ask teachers periodically what is needed so that class reps can ask parents to help donate. Class reps can only reach out to parents via email, phone call or in person. Parents can only give teachers the actual supplies not a gift card to purchase the supplies. A suggestion was made that a "Junk List" or a list of the small items those teachers need be available when school begins so that parents can donate those items and then the Wish List will be for larger items. Suggestion was made that the wish list items that state "classroom library books" be removed from the wish list because the proceeds from Schoolapalooza is to cover classroom library books. A suggestion was made that the freed up money can be used to fund E-Chalk so that teachers can post homework and activities on the internet. Some barriers on E-Chalk are that teachers have a concern on having to continuously update the website and that the teachers need training. It was suggested that the Wish List be approved for the amount and not the actual items on the list. Motion was made that the amount of money for Wish List be approved and any excess money would be used to get the school network system. Motion approved.

3rd and 4th grade music show- Mr. Jennings suggested to sell CD's of the 3rd and 4th grade show and to sell some Frog Tale CDs. He is donating all the proceeds to the PA. We just need the PA to put up \$400 to make the CDs. Ariel suggested that the proceeds be used to pay for Mr. Jennings item from the wish list. A motion was made to use \$400 from the PA to create the CDs and it was approved.

New Victory Theater program- no vote needed. You can sign up online or via phone or in person. Copies were handed out.

Thursday March 4th in the morning will be a Math Workshop.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm

Minutes submitted by: Ana Cecilia Hernandez