

MINUTES

Samuels Elementary PTA Minutes

September 9, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Jenni Stottlemyer, PTA Co-President at 6:11 pm.

Welcome and Introduction of Board

Jenni welcomed everyone and introduced the current board members.

Co-Presidents – Jenni Stottlemyer and Danielle Schreiber

Secretary – Vicky McPheron

Treasurer – Alan Suzuki

Hospitality– Leticia Banuelos and Suzy Brown

Fundraising – Marlene Rivas

Membership – Chandra Venrick

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting were not available and will be approved at the October meeting.

Destination Imagination

Joan Byrnes spoke about Destination Imagination. She explained that it is an international after school activity involving problem solving and is literature based. Each team can be up to 7 children. Team leader/s serve only in an advisory capacity. Competition will be in March or April 2009 at George Washington High School. Teams are judged on creativity, team work and problem solving. She reported that last year we had 4 teams last year of which 3 competed. PTA paid for registration and Jenni Stottlemyer is hoping to do a fundraiser to help cover the costs of t-shirts. The competition is made up of two parts. One is a prepared presentation and the other is an instant challenge. First and second graders are not competitive. Jenni Stottlemyer will coordinate recruiting team leaders and assigning teams.

Presentation of Duck Derby Check

Diane from Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann's office presented a check to Samuels PTA for \$3635.53. She stated that all 3000 ducks sold and over \$18,000 was raised. They asked that we let them know how Samuels uses the funds.

General Meetings

The PTA meeting will meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month except when the 2nd Tuesday follows a day off of school in which case the meeting will be pushed to the 3rd Tuesday (this should only happen in November). The PTA is looking for ideas for what parents would like to see done or speakers they would like to hear.

Principal's Report

There was no report from Principal Jim Kimbrough who was unable to attend.

Fall Carnival

The fall carnival is scheduled for October 16th with Karen Lutz as chairperson. Starting the last week of September, Karen will be notifying parents and assigning jobs. At back to school night a sign up for volunteers was taken. Flyers will be in the Thursday folders leading up to the event.

Fundraising

Entertainment book sales have just ended. There will be a full report at next months meeting. The Believe Catalog fundraiser will begin in October.

Box Tops

Jenni reported that she was in charge last year and admitted that there is so much more that can be done. She feels much more informed now. She reported that there will be a container in the office all year for Box Tops drop off. Lots of products have the Box Tops. Jenni said that we will also do Campbell soup labels. A flyer about the program will be in the Thursday folders. Box Tops for Education are reddish, pinkish label on product boxes.

RIF

Christie McCarthy will be doing RIF this year and training Rebecca Lager for next year. Reading is Fundamental is a federally funded program where the government pays for 2/3rd to 3/4th of the costs of the books and we make up the rest. The first step is to get the catalogs and order forms. We order once from each company. Whoever wants to get involved is welcome and there will be a flyer to set up a meeting in the Thursday folders. We need volunteers to come in during the school day for 2 hours to give away books and try and guide the kids to books in their age group. Part of money we raise at PTA activities goes to help pay for RIF. Training is coming up at the end of the month and distribution dates are still to be determined.

Goals

The goals for the PTA this year will be:

- Increase membership including teachers.
- Increase Destination Imagination awareness.
- Update and maintain the website - samuelspta.com Easy website to access.
- Increase box tops participation

Questions and comments are always welcome. They can be submitted through the website and we will also have a suggestion box in the office.

Membership Report

Membership coordinator, Chandra Venrick reported that there are many things that can be done to support the PTA. We really want to encourage our fathers to participate as well. The 3 for Me Program has been created to ask the parents to donate at 3 hours per semester to support the PTA. The three hours can be in the form such as reading in the classroom, helping with set up or clean up at PTA events. Parents can also do things at home to help such as bake goods for the bake sale. We need to encourage everyone to join the PTA. A flyer will be included in the Thursday folder and there will be a form to fill out and return to the PTA.

Miscellaneous

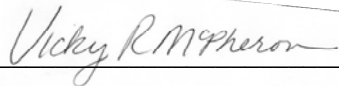
Mandatory requirements for teacher participation were discussed and clarified. The bond issue that will be on the November was also discussed. Amendment 3A includes funding for DPS. If the bond issue passes, Samuels will use 1.1 million for a new playground. You can go to the DPS website and look at it for more information. Lori Goldstein asked about donating a microwave so it could be used for warming up lunches. Jenni will research whether that is possible.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 14th at 6:00 pm

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm by Jenni Stottleyer.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Recording Secretary

Approved on November 18, 2008