

Allendale Middle School PTO Minutes
Monday, September 13, 2010

Present: Rhonda Wilson, Dave Erdmans, Cristy Sauter, Shelley Sickrey, Paula Mayers, Chris Kelly, Colleen Falstrom

1. Call to Order
 - a. Made at 6:32 PM
2. Secretary's Report
 - a. April minutes approved
3. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Hard copy provided at meeting
 - b. Current balance is \$7,008.25
 - c. Not much activity over the summer: check from Paper Gator & QSP Magazines
 - d. The Razberry Patch activity was a gift basket sent to the Tymanski family after the loss of the father in a boating accident; another basket will be soon sent to the Ramos family for the loss of the father & hospitalization of the mother from an auto accident
 - e. We are paying Danette Otten for 8x10 photos of sports teams - we would like to get photos of clubs, etc, but we need a showcase in which to put them
 - i. Dave: Will we have another student showcase?
 1. Chris: we do need to have a place for our trophies in order to display our students' accomplishments
4. Principal's Report
 - a. No report given
5. Counselor's Report
 - a. Rhonda Wilson reported that the Youth Archery Club starts tomorrow and will last for 6 weeks - there will be a bus transporting the club; has taken on the Quest for the Cup responsibilities since Brett Cataldo's position was cut - there are no treats left over from last year, so more will need to be purchased by Friday - candy, juice boxes, etc; attended the Volunteer Fair at Grand Valley State University, but this year's location in the upstairs of Kirkhof Center saw much less traffic than previous locations in Padnos Science Building/Henry Hall - talking with the Housing Department in order to get some volunteers in the classrooms as the Housing RAs are required to have service hours; Leadership Team nominations are going out this week; submitted a written Student of the Week proposal asking for \$350 for the year - there will be a vote next meeting on the proposal
6. Teacher's Reports
 - a. 6th grade: No report given
 - b. 7th grade: Chris Kelly reported that the E-Team will be making and displaying energy saver reminder signs throughout the school that remind students to turn off lights, computers, etc - signs will be paid for by the pop can money; the E-Team is also looking into applying for an outside grant; looking into a Reading Team; submitted oral proposals regarding the Chamber Theater Production and starting a plastic recycling campaign through Potluck Pick-Up for \$10/month - there will be a vote next meeting on these proposals
 - c. 8th grade: Dave Erdmans thanked the PTO for everything that they do, and reported that the 8th grade has a new teacher, Sue Watson; that the teachers would like to provide MEAP treats again this year - PTO will reimburse teachers up to \$100 for each grade to provide treats/snacks during MEAP testing in the 1st or 2nd week of October; submitted an oral proposal regarding Reading Challenge - "smoothed/schmoozed" the PTO for \$450 (\$225/semester) to fund the rewards for the challenge because it is great motivation for the students to read, they read a lot through this challenge, and the program is dope, sayeth G - there will be a vote next meeting on this proposal
 - d. Exploratories: No report given

7. Old Business
 - a. Paper Gator
 - i. There is good traffic on Lake Michigan Drive - it seems good to leave it there, but do we want it here by the Middle School or leave it on Lake Michigan Drive by New Options (we would need to talk to the New Options principal to make sure this is OK)
 1. Chris: The recycling from the Middle School should also be put in the Paper Gator, but it may be getting put into the Elementary School's Paper Gator; no matter where it is, it needs to be promoted more, perhaps through Announcements, more reward points, promoting how the funds from the Paper Gator benefit the school; it should be moved here to at least get the Middle School paper into it
 2. Cristy will contact Gary and Shawn to see where it can be moved to near the Middle School
 - b. Quest for the Cup Treats (see Counselor's Report)
 - i. 7th grade will be counting 1st hour - check with Rhonda for the other two grades
8. Committees
 - a. They are coming together - we have signatures on almost all committees, though no one has signed up to chair a committee
 - b. The sign-up sheets were out at the Back-to-School Fair and at the Middle School Open House
9. New Business
 - a. Student of the Week proposal (see Counselor's report)
 - b. 8th Grade Reading Challenge (see 8th Grade Report)
 - c. Magazine Sale: the kick-off of the fundraiser is next Wednesday, Mark Batts of QSP will be coming around talking to classes, the prize package is a little different this year as it is more geared toward Middle School age students, the prizes will be based on the number of orders and they include - Dairy Queen gift card, SKINIT decals for iPod and other electronics, a limo ride - all of the prizes are cumulative; we are hoping to have posters promoting the prizes; the homeroom competition this year will be based on percentage of student participation; postcard sales will earn a prize draw from the "duck pond" which may include the silly bands as a prize; teacher discounts will be online
 - i. Chris: could send out G-Mail reminders
10. Questions from the Floor
 - a. None

Door prize winner was Chris Kelly. Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Sickrey
PTO Secretary