

Allendale Middle School PTO Minutes
Monday, January 3, 2011

Present: Shelley Jourden, Rocky Thompson, Trevor Kuzee, Lynne Sherk, Rhonda Wilson, Shelley Sickrey, Cristy Sauter, Paula Mayers, Colleen Falstrom

1. Call to Order
 - a. Made at 7:02 PM
2. Secretary's Report
 - a. November minutes approved
3. Treasurer's Report
 - a. No hard copy provided at meeting due to technical difficulties
 - b. Current balance is \$5,336.91
 - c. There was a QSP deposit of \$152.80
 - d. The 6th Grade Skating trip deposit was \$412 and the trip cost \$371
 - e. There were expenses for MAP treats, Quest for the Cup treats, Mr. Piccard's new net, pizza parties, and Mrs. Watson's holiday gift certificate and plant
4. Principal's Report
 - a. Rocky Thompson reported that trial number two of the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) testing will begin soon - it is the second of three tests that will be given this year and will allow us to track the progress from the beginning, middle, and end of the year; the Teachers/Staff Holiday Party will be on January 15, 2011 - we will be bowling; individual MEAP test results were received today and will be going out soon - initial review of the results show that we did improve in the one area that we wanted to improve in, however we did not do as well as last year overall, though we are within 3% of last year's scores
5. Teacher's Reports
 - a. 6th grade: Shelley Jourden reported that we received a check for the box tops and labels collection, but we really need to promote this more as a fundraiser as it seems the kids just do not continue bringing them in like they did in elementary school - perhaps we could push this in the fall with back-to-school with a flier, etc. - maybe have drawings for prizes when kids turn them in; the teachers are looking at their schedules in order to build in an hour per week where students can have more one-on-one time with teachers in specific subjects - we tried it before the break and it went well so we would like to make it more permanent - this gives opportunities for students to work in areas in which they are struggling, and to work in advanced areas
 - b. 7th grade: Trevor Kuzee reported that Mrs. Apel had her baby over the break; they are beginning the planning for the 7th Grade Class Trip to Detroit and are hoping to get charter busses
 - i. Question from the floor: Can the PTO help with the cost of this trip?
 - ii. Board member: we would have to look at our by-laws to see what is said about funding class trips, but on first impression, we may not want to be put into a position where we are funding yearly class trips - one-time help for special circumstances/occasions is different than a yearly commitment
 - c. 8th grade: Lynn Sherk reported that Reading Reward Day is coming up at the end of the month and thanked the PTO for helping make that happen; MAP testing will be done with Mr. Yarnel during his rotation
 - d. Exploratories: Lynn Sherk reported for Mrs. Davies that the Band and Choir had their concerts before break to great success; Mrs. Lutke is hoping the PTO can help with getting volunteers to help get art up for the Art Fair in the spring; art is up around the school; would like to do the Day of the Dead activities again next year, but would like the PTO to help with arranging volunteers or some money for food; the exploratories classes have

participated in three cross-curricular activities - Day of the Dead, Harlem Renaissance, and one other - these cross-curricular activities are very educational

6. Counselor's Report

- a. Rhonda Wilson reported that the Ski Club was a huge hit with 120 participants - it was opened to parents, etc. - they took two trips to Cannonsburg on December 20 and 29, 2010 - it was busier on December 29 - the PTO had approved \$200 for transportation costs and that will cover the busses - the Ski Club is looking into fundraising for transportation funds for next year; the Student of the Week pizza party happened; the Leadership Team will be asked to assist with Barb Beck's game night, as well as being set on a Hand Washing Campaign; thanks to the PTO for the Quest for the Cup treats as they continue to be very motivational

7. Committees

- a. 6th grade roller skating party: for the most part it went well, but this year's 6th grade class was a wild bunch on the bus - the driver even had to pull over at one point - the kids had a good time - we had about 80 participants and lots of snacks - we tried this instead of the Halloween party
- b. Luncheon committee: we will be organizing the luncheon committee to provide a luncheon for teachers during the upcoming 1/2 day during conferences

8. New Business

- a. Fundraiser idea
 - i. Rocky Thompson shared an idea for a fundraiser - he was inspired by a school near St. Ignus
 - ii. Lynne Sherk shared an idea for middle school spirit wear
 1. Class of " "
- b. It is time to recruit for new PTO officers
 - i. Cristy will not be eligible to serve next year as she will not have a child in the middle school

9. Old Business

- a. Magazine sale update: profit from postcards is \$1731, highest in territory
 - i. Our salesman, Mark Batts, may have moved to Texas - Paula will check into this as her husband is a high school friend of Mark's
- b. Playground equipment
 - i. The items were purchased and are currently in use - Rocky will get the invoice to us
 - ii. \$153 was spent on equipment

10. Questions from the Floor

- a. None

Door prize winner was Shelley Jourden. Meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Sickrey
PTO Secretary