

North Park PTA Minutes
February 12, 2009

Members Present

Jeff Cacek, Rhonda Heryla, Christy Rockwell, Tracy Ocel, Scott Ocel, Martha Nyhus, Shirley Johnson, Cindy Solz, Michelle O'Leary, Teresa Born

Call To Order and Approval Of Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM. Minutes from January 8, 2009 were approved.

Playground Supervision

Concern has been expressed that there are not enough staff to supervise children let out to the playground during the time between when school lets out and when Encore classes begin. Duane Berkas, Director of Teaching and Learning was present as well for the discussion. The second semester has significantly more children signed up and adjustments need to be made in staffing. A suggestion was made to split Kindergarten and First Grade and send them to the little playground and keep the older children on the big playground. Duane will be meeting with a committee on Tuesday and then will get back to Jeff Cacek with a plan.

Pizza Party and Book Fair

Students from National Honor Society will be helping out with book fair. Pizza party is organized as well and conference dinners will be planned for about 45 staff members.

Basket Bid

Tracy Ocel is still looking for more baskets. The PTA will be purchasing an iPod and a \$15 iTunes card to raffle off the night of the Fine Arts Festival as well. Christy Rockwell will purchase supplies for snacks – cookies, popcorn, soda, water.

Fine Arts Festival

Teresa Born will send an email to Ariane to see what more she needs for the Fine Arts Festival and to coordinate supplies. She will also check on the need to recruit volunteers to help with art project tables.

MCA Testing Hall Monitors

Three adults are needed to act as hall monitors during the MCA's on April 21-22 and April 28-29.

Administrative Assistant Day

Teresa Born will purchase gift cards for the administrative assistants.

Spring BBQ – Change the Date

The date of the Spring BBQ will be changed to Friday, May 15th to avoid interfering with Memorial Day weekend.

Fall Fundraiser

Michelle O'Leary has been contacted by the vendor from last fall's fundraiser wondering if North Park is interested in doing business with them again in the fall of 2009. It seems the fundraiser went well last year and was well organized. The PTA would like to use the same vendor and recommended to sell pies instead of pretzels next time around.

Recess Release / Supervision in Lunch Room

Concern was expressed about teachers or other staff not watching the front doors during recess release, and children being allowed to run out the front doors to the parking area without anyone seeing them. The doors to the back parking lot do not get used by the children going to the playground due to garbage truck deliveries.

A second concern expressed was the lack of discipline in the lunch room witnessed during a second grade lunch period when roughly 100 children were present. Children were reported to be walking on seats and lying on the floor – a lot of chaos.

Jeff Cacek will review with staff escorting children to the front doors to go out to the playground and will follow up on the lunchroom behavior.

Funding Requests

There was discussion about the \$500 funding request for the Fifth Grade party discussed at the last meeting. The concern expressed is that the same funding was not granted in 2007-2008 because there was not a group of parents to organize the traditional fifth grade party. The PTA generally tries to support events for all children in the school, and there is not a succession plan to guarantee each group of fifth graders benefit from a party. The funding request did go through with a push for better communication to fourth grade parents so they are aware of the tradition of a fifth grade party.

Principal's Report

The Columbia Heights Boosters will be sponsoring North Park Night at the Boy's Basketball Game on Friday, March 6th with the North Park fourth and fifth graders playing at half time.

Next Meeting

The next PTA meeting is Thursday, March 12th at 6:30 PM.