

Trinity PTO January Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2012

President Meridith Anderson opened the meeting with prayer and welcomed the group. Rachele Paul, Anne Ross and Stephanie Ousdigian were unable to attend the meeting.

Meridith gave the President's report, and reported the items that were purchased with some of the Knowledge-a-Thon funds, including a Mimio Vote system, chairs for the youth/art room and speakers for the classrooms. She also reported that many teachers purchased items for their classrooms using money earned from the Scholastic book fair in October.

In Stephanie's absence, Meridith gave an update on the Family Service event. A date is pending for a sandwich-making project, which will benefit the homeless in the Twin Cities. **Stephanie is looking for committee members to spearhead the project;** she hopes to find donations for the sandwich ingredients.

A tentative date of March 9 has been selected for the Family Fun Night even, which will feature Dr. Burkhardt of Concordia. Stephanie would also like to form a committee to coordinate this event. **Please contact Stephanie if you are willing to serve on either committee!**

The Grandparent's Day event will be held off until next school year, due to time constraints in planning the event for this year.

Alison Johnson presented the Principal's Report, and asked for help with the Feb 16 Information Night. She is looking for PTO members to provide help and refreshments during the evening. She would like at least one parent in each classroom, who would talk to parents as they tour the school, and she would like someone to coordinate cookies, punch and coffee for the evening. **Please contact Meridith if you can help.**

There is still a need for a school athletic director!

The calendar is in development for next year, and we will again eliminate the late start/early releases from the school year.

Mrs. Johnson will be teaching a Life Skills class to 7 & 8 grades 2 days per week this spring! The class will include sewing and cooking skills.

In the fall, parents will notice a new technology fee of \$30/student added to their fees. This fee will cover the ongoing costs of maintaining and upgrading computers and other technology in the school.

Funds from the upcoming Gala will likely fund new flooring for the classrooms, which has been a need for several years.

Shanda Wilhelmy gave the Treasurer's Report, and the PTO balance is currently \$4,383.08. The KAT (Knowledge-a-thon) fund balance is about \$625, pending some spending that has not occurred yet.

In Anne Ross' absence, the group discussed the ongoing fundraising options. The discussion centered on whether we should quit collecting some items that make less money, and focus on the ones that make lots of money for the Academy. Some felt having options was good, since not everyone buys the same items or shops at the same stores. No decision was made.

It was also reported that Anne is looking for another Kindergarten family to help with Wendy's night on Jan 17 and a MS family to help with Wendy's night on March 20 (during Spring Break.). Please contact Anne if you can help!

Jenny Fravel reported that the last Gala meeting will be held on Jan 23 at 7 pm at Hudson Bagel. This year, 230 tickets are available, and 120 have already been sold. The committee is still looking for large auction items, such as vacation homes, event tickets, etc, as well as smaller silent auction items which can be brought to the front desk at any time. The group will also host a Teacher's Day Off raffle at this year's Gala.

Meridith told the group that the local Thrivent Financial rep would like to host an event at school, focused on teaching parents how to teach their children about money. The group liked the idea, and a date is pending - possibly a Sunday afternoon.

She also asked if the group was open to forming a nominating committee to help fill upcoming vacancies on the PTO Board. Meridith will be stepping down as president after her two year term, and there may be other positions open, as well. The group will discuss the idea at the Feb PTO meeting.

The next PTO meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 14, at 3:35 in the Church Conference Room, Upper Level. Childcare will be available in the art room.

The meeting was adjourned at 5 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Teri Larsen, PTO Secretary