

McCornack Elementary
PTO Minutes
February 5, 2008

In Attendance: Tami Krueger, Debi Cornell, Laurie Nichols, Danielle Benson, Kallin Benson, Tasha Katsuda, Laurie Freeman, Heather Wilson, Esther Barton, Paula McDonald, Debby Laimon, Karen Olsen, Holly Powell, Richelle Brigola.

Auction Update: Heather Wilson has been working on the kinder project for Miss Linda. Their chairs are primed and will be painted next week. Kallin let us know that all wood projects need to be to him by February 15 in order to be sealed in time for the auction. Miss Olsen's project will be an arts and crafts table with a butterfly theme. The quilt for Mr. Olson is coming along nicely! Holly reported that everything is organized for the auction... the band is booked, the food ordered and the donations are coming in. At this point, it is unknown how many tickets have been sold.

Meet the Masters: Meet the Masters was scheduled to start this week with Miss Olsen's class, but was postponed until March. Holly and Tasha will meet next week and decide the new start date.

Popcorn Friday: PTO donated all cash collected from January's Popcorn Friday to the "Pennies for Heifers" fund. That amount came to \$130. The total (approximate) amount collected for "Pennies for Heifers" came to \$367.87. This was enough money for two families in Guatemala to purchase 2 goats and 9 flocks of chickens. The next Popcorn Friday will be February 15.

Treasurer's Report: A balance of \$15,095.22 was reported. That amount includes the 5th grade expenses being paid and a PBS receipt of \$45.74 being paid.

Reading Incentive: The reading logs are at the print shop and Debi Cornell is designing the Certificates of Achievement.

Nominating Committee: Debby Laimon and Danielle Benson volunteered to head up the nominating committee for the vacancies coming up. Their duties will be to send out information detailing what positions are open and their requirements, as well as talking to parents to get the information out.

Principal Update: MECCA art classes are back. This term we have two classes available; one on Tuesdays and the other on Thursdays.

Ukulele classes will be starting up after spring break and Polynesian Dance classes will follow. The teacher for ukulele class is donating her time and she will also be teaching the dance class which will be funded through monies from PTO. Class sizes are limited and students will be chosen on a lottery basis.

We also have Laura Jackson coming to the school as our "Artist in Residence". However this is funded by the district and there is enough allotment for only 4 classrooms.

At the April 7th PTO meeting, we will have the District TAG coordinator coming to address that situation.

Dr. Seuss night will be February 27, which coincides with the second week of school choice.

Tasha has received our staffing numbers for next school year. More information to come.

Testing coming up next month for all students. This year the Oregon State Assessment will be taken online.

The students will get three attempts at this test. More information will be sent home with students.

The March PTO meeting will information regarding our Title One program.

The 4J school district has implemented a new policy regarding required PE time for the 2008-09 school year.

In accordance with the "Wellness Policy" the district will require more PE time for students. This will be a challenge for an already time-crunched day.

New Curriculum: A parent wondered how the new Language Arts program was working out for teachers. After some initial frustrations, things seem to be going smoothly. It is adaptable to all levels of learning abilities. The scheduled "professional development" days have been good for staff to check in with one another.

School Funding: Paula McDonald provided all in attendance much needed information regarding school funding. In her opinion, the bottom line is this: we don't have enough funding and it starts at the state level. Measure 5 damaged school funding with some school districts seeing a loss of 40% of their funds. She urged parents to get together and write our senators, school superintendents, etc. to get our funding increased.

Meeting adjourned.