

## Minutes of the Pleasantdale PTA Board Meeting, Tuesday, May 31, 2011

**President, Kelly Hansen** called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Secretary, Kathy Shah** read correspondence received from **Bernie Lucas, Michelle Neuberg, Erin Oskroba and Andrea Mars** thanking the PTA for the wonderful Staff Appreciation week. Thank you notes for Staff Appreciation Week were also received from the **Second Grade Team, the Fifth Grade Team, the Sixth Grade Team and the Seventh Grade Team**. **Courtney Camer** also sent a thank you as she wished to thank the PTA for the harpists.

**Treasurer, Alli Gulliver** provided the following Treasurer's report: As of May 31<sup>st</sup>, the PTA cash balance was \$24,346, with income from the President's Dinner of \$1200 and expenses totaling \$3,953, mostly for the President's Dinner and Middle School Picnic.

**Minutes** – The minutes of the last PTA Board Meeting were approved as written.

### **Administration Reports –**

**Superintendent, Dr. Mark Fredisdorf** reported for Matt Vandercar and Meg Pokorny who had other engagements this evening:

**Matt Vandercar** wished to thank the PTA for an outstanding year. He also wished to thank **Beth Schwartz** in advance for the upcoming Field Day as it promises to be new and improved. **Millie Vidakovich and Almir Emso** will host a Field Day volunteer meeting to provide instructions for those volunteering on Field Day. He also wished to thank **Paula Ogurkiewicz** for arranging the magician that will perform for the students this week as a kick off to the Summer Reading Program. He wished to express that he felt this year was one of PTA's best.

**Meg Pokorny** wished to thank the volunteers who will be assisting with tonight's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dinner Dance. She also wanted to thank all who made this year's picnic a big success.

**Mark Fredisdorf** wished to remind all that the Pleasantdale Summer Academy will take place this summer along with the Special Ed Co-op Program. In July, Pleasantdale will host Worlds of Wonder Summer Camp/Center for Gifted as well as Camp Invention. There will also be two summer sports camps offered for which they are currently recruiting. Lastly, he wished to acknowledge the current board who he felt was leaving the PTA in very good shape and that he felt this board has been a class act in their efforts. He also wanted to welcome the new board and feels that they will provide even more promise ahead in terms of continuing to build a strong PTA.

**Maureen McGonigle** reported for **Elementary Staff**. Her report was as follows:

Preschool – just finished their farmer's market unit and learned a lot about fruits and vegetables. The students are looking forward to the end of the year picnic with their parents.

Kindergarten – released their butterflies in the butterfly garden and has been practicing for their Kindergarten Celebration. They wished to thank the room moms for outstanding parties this year!

Second grade – is wrapping up an exciting year and busy working on map skills and reading *Deserts*.

Third grade – is wrapping up the year and just returned from a field trip to Chicago. They were fortunate they were able to ride the Wendella Boats despite the weather. They just finished reading *The Flunking of Joshua T. Bates* and are looking forward to Field Day.

Fourth grade – wishes to thank the parents who volunteered for the State Feast as well as plan the year-end celebration. They also wished to thank the PTA for all they have done this year, including Read Across America, Special Lunch, Write Stuff, Halloween Hop /Shamrock Shake and the cultural events.

Art – Kindergarten is creating butterfly monoprints for their Kindergarten Celebration. First grade is finishing up their Jacob Lawrence Marchers project. They combined crayon resist and collage to create community scenes. Second grade is still weaving. Third grade is playing with line and pattern. They are creating human profiles with exaggerated features and wacky hair. Fourth grade is also playing with line and pattern as well as creating Gustav Klimt quilts in marker.

PE – Ms. Blogg's first grade classes have been learning racquet ball skills. They celebrated Earth Day by playing a recycling game called "Garbage Pick Up".

Spanish – Kindergarten completed a unit on pets, First grade enjoyed Mexican Market Day. Second grade learned names for jungle animals. Third grade studied names for body parts and Fourth grade did their sandwich presentations.

**Middle School Staff Representative** – no one to report

**Unfinished Business** – The Chair was unaware of any unfinished business.

**New Business** – The Chair was unaware of any new business.

**Committee Reports:**

**Cultural Arts** – Chair, **Paula Ogurkiewicz** reported. Her report was as follows: This Thursday at Elementary, a magician act will kick off Summer Reading. This performer will do magic acts with an emphasis on reading.

**Eighth Grade** – no one to report

**Meals that Heal** – no one to report

**Music Committee** – no one to report

**Room Reps/Middle** – **Paula Ogurkiewicz** also reported for Middle School Room Reps. Her report was as follows: Students seemed to really enjoy the picnic where hotdogs, chips, popsicles and sweets were served. They also had fun on the inflatable slide and with face painting. A big thank you to all the volunteers and for the generosity of the parents who donated the sweets and water.

**Room Reps/Elementary** - no one to report

**Kim Gilman** reported for **Staff Appreciation**. Her report was as follows: We had another fantastic Staff Appreciation Week. The theme was "movies" which included a *western* style breakfast, *gangster "red"* snacks, *romantic* chocolate-covered strawberries, *crawly horror* snacks and a *Chicago*-inspired lunch as the finale! The decorations made the theme come alive and the staff competed for some outstanding gift certificates ranging from spas to jewelry, restaurants, fitness centers and dance lessons! The week would not have been possible without the creativity and help of **Vicki Castro, Serena Dreher, Ann Marie Daker, Jennifer Hawbaker, Jennifer Hennessy, Sherry Kulhanek, Dawn Parente and Andrea Sarno**. Thank you as well to **the Pleasantdale Families** for their generous food donations. Finally, thank you to the entire **Staff Appreciation Committee** for their hard work and efforts this year!

**President, Kelly Hansen** wished to remind all Chairs who have not turned in their folders to do so as soon as possible. She also wished the incoming board the best of luck and know they will do a good job.

**Announcements** - A General Meeting of the Pleasantdale PTA will be held immediately following this meeting.

**Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

## MEMORANDUM

Date: May 9, 2011

To: Pleasantdale PTA

From: Barbara Lamb

Re: 2010-2011 Music Committee Activities

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During the past year, the PTA Music Committee was engaged in three activities.

### **Middle School Pizza Party**

The Committee assisted Fred Bell in organizing a lunchtime Pizza Party for all Middle School music program participants. In December, students come to the Band Room for pizza during their lunch periods. The Committee Chair should contact Mr. Bell in October to finalize a date for the party. Mr. Bell can also provide a list of all music program participants as a starting point for recruiting parent helpers.

The Committee recruited 5 parent volunteers to work at the Party and shopped for the food and supplies. Mr. Bell ordered pizzas from Dominick's for pickup just prior to lunchtime. Liters of soda, cookies and paper goods were purchased in advance.

Middle School Administration underwrote the cost of the party.

### **Lyons Township Band Orchestra Festival**

For the second year, Pleasantdale hosted the Lyons Township Orchestra Festival. This is an annual event that brings together all LT feeder schools and the LTHS orchestra staff. The Music Committee organized a pizza lunch for all festival attendees. For this event, we used Nonno's Pizzeria on LaGrange Road because they would deliver it. We purchased canned soda rather than liter bottles. Apples and cookies were also served. Given the large number of students and the short time allowed for the lunch break, approximately 15 volunteers were necessary. Lunch was served in the main lobby of the Middle School and eaten in the IMC and Band Room. The cost of this event was fully paid for by the attendees.

### **Ice Cream Social**

On May 6<sup>th</sup>, the Committee assisted the Middle and Elementary School music teachers in organizing a PTA sponsored Ice Cream Social for Pleasantdale 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade music program participants in the Middle School APR. The Social is an after school event (3:30-5:30) intended to introduce 4<sup>th</sup> graders to the Middle School music program. 4<sup>th</sup> Graders are bused to the Middle School for 2 hours of games and ice cream sundaes with the 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Games are conducted in several locations around the school and students rotate in groups to each location. Ice cream sundaes are served in the APR during the last 30 minutes of the event. Attached is a copy of the permission slip and rotation schedule used for this year's Social.

A recommendation for next year is to ask Mr. Bell to include some comments about behavior expectations in his welcoming remarks. He should make clear that parent volunteers should and will step in to correct behavior that is getting out of control.

A second recommendation for next year is to move the Musical Chairs station from the APR to the small gym. This activity can get very boisterous and would be better controlled in a bigger space. A second consideration is that the children get very excited about the ice cream and as the event proceeds, they lose interest in the game and start to inquire about when ice cream will be served. Having the Musical Chairs away from the APR will eliminate this problem. Furthermore, students who must leave early can come to the APR to enjoy their ice cream without distracting everyone else.

The Committee recruited approximately 15 parent volunteers (be sure to inquire about parents who note willingness to volunteer on the permission slips) to escort six groups of (15-20 students from station to station), run games, and serve ice cream. The Committee also purchased the ice cream, toppings, and paper goods (bowls, spoons and napkins) for the event. Check in the PTA closet at the Middle School for leftover paper goods that can be used. Experience suggests that 1 cup (2 half-cup scoops) of ice cream per student is just about the right amount to buy. Toppings included chocolate and strawberry sauce, M&Ms, decorating sprinkles, and whipped cream.

It worked well to have parents start scooping ice cream around 4:45pm and stack the bowls in the large deep freeze in the kitchen. Then we set up three serving stations with parents handling all of the toppings. This kept things orderly.

The cost of the Ice Cream Social was approximately \$125.00.

### **Music Department Instrument/Equipment/Supplies Purchase**

After paying for the Ice Cream Social, the three music teachers decide among themselves how to allocate the remaining funds in the Music Committee budget. They purchase what they need and submit the receipts to the Committee Chair to process for PTA reimbursement.

This year the Committee had a \$1,750.00 budget. At this writing, the tentative purchase is a new percussion cabinet for use at the Middle School with an estimated cost of \$1,500.00.