

Meeting Minutes (approved March 17, 2011)
Mountview PTA General Meeting
Thursday February 17, 2011

Attendance: Nancy Alzamora, Carrie Boisselle, Michele DiLoreto, Nancy Gaudette, Candy Graham, Karen Hughes, Elizabeth Leandres, Tina McAndrew, Lisa O'Connor, Meredith Ramsey, Randi Setterlund, Marlo Tsiramanes, Suzanne Vashugin, Patty Walton

- i. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.
- ii. Minutes from the January 20, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved (motion to approve: Carrie Boisselle, 2nd: Michele DiLoreto).
- iii. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Teacher advisors were paid for session 2 of Homework Zone.
 - b. Due to parent donations, there was only a minimal expense for the recent staff breakfast.
 - c. The current balance is approximately \$32,100.
 - d. The issue of the fiscal year stated in the bylaws (July 1 – June 30) versus the way taxes have been filed historically (January 1 – December 31) was discussed. A vote was taken to approve an amendment to the bylaws to sync these, however the state PTA treasurer and IRS are being consulted to determine if the change should be to the bylaws or with the IRS. The change to the bylaws was unanimously approved so that it may be implemented if necessary (motion to approve: Karen Hughes, 2nd: Nancy Gaudette). A resolution will be discussed at next month's meeting.
- iv. Grant/Stipend requests
 - a. A \$500 stipend was unanimously approved (motion to approve: Nancy Alzamora, 2nd: Carrie Boisselle) for Lisa Hughes to run a Morning Organizational Club for 6th graders. Approximately 20 – 30 participants will be solicited based on teacher recommendation. Karen Hughes spoke about this program and the need for it.
 - b. It was noted that the 6th grade Math Workshop discussed earlier in the year has concluded. This program was very labor intensive for Mrs. Lawrence to conduct, but was worthwhile as some student improvement was observed. To continue helping students who still need additional math instruction, Nancy Alzamora suggested contacting high school honor society students who may be interested in tutoring in order to fulfill their society requirements.
 - c. Stipends for \$400 each for Deb Mudge and Diana Pahl were unanimously approved (motion to approve: Suzanne Vashugin, 2nd: Nancy Gaudette). Originally, \$500 each was requested, however \$400 each was approved based on the descriptions on the stipend request form. These teachers advise the Model UN and spend at least an hour a week with students preparing for events, which they then attend with the students on weekends. The carnation sale that occurred around Valentine's Day was held to raise money to help support the Model UN's participation in these events.
- v. Events/Programs
 - a. The school play will be held March 9 – 12, with performances at 7:00 pm on the 9th, 10th and 11th and at 4:00 pm on the 12th. Doors will open 30 minutes prior to each performance for queuing and sales of tickets, refreshments, message cards and carnations. Message cards will be delivered at the time of purchase. Carnations will be held by those purchasing them until after the performance when they can be presented to the actors. One-line messages will be sold for inclusion in the play program; the order form will be posted on the

school website and mailed to the PTA membership soon. Tickets for the play will be \$5 each and will be sold through the main office, as well as at the door if a show has not sold out prior to the night of the performance; if a show does sell out, a ConnectEd message will go out so people without tickets don't waste a trip to a sold out show. Last month, Hope Cotton had requested the purchase of overhead microphones, however due to the uncertainty surrounding the status of the building, this was tabled for the time being. Central Tree Middle School has agreed to let Mountview borrow portable microphones for the performances in March.

b. The next school dance will be held the Friday before the play, March 4th, and proceeds will benefit the PTA. Volunteers to chaperone, sell refreshments and clean up were solicited at the meeting.

c. MCAS testing will be held on March 22, 24 and 25. Donations of small bottles of water and small bags of pretzels (or other suitable snacks) will be requested by the school (on the website and through ConnectEd messages). The PTA will supply any additional items needed after donations have been delivered.

d. The Beelzebubs, an all-male a cappella group from Tufts University, will be at Mountview on April 8th. They will hold a workshop at 5:00 pm for any interested students to learn an a cappella song, then will perform a 6-song concert at 7:00 pm. The last song of the concert will feature the students who attended the workshop. The Bubs are providing arrangements and background vocals for the Dalton Academy Warblers on the TV show Glee. The fees for the workshop and concert tickets, which will be sold in advance and at the door, are yet to be determined. The Landmark will be contacted to help promote this event.

vi. Principal Time (Karen Hughes)

a. The recent absences due to illness, particularly in the 8th grade, were discussed. Although many students were out at the end of last week and earlier this week, this has not reached epidemic proportions. By the day of the meeting, less than 10% of the school population was absent, which is normal for winter months. Mr. Githmark sent out a ConnectEd message today to quell the rumors of an epidemic.

b. ConAgra Foods has provided each member of the 6 blue team with gift boxes of Swiss Miss cocoa, which need to be picked up by a parent. This stemmed from a discussion in Mrs. Lawrence's math class regarding an equation that had been printed on the back of a Swiss Miss package. A student had noticed that it was incorrect, and after working through the problem together in class, Mrs. Lawrence contacted the company regarding the error. After this, another school was recognized on a local news channel for discovering the error. When Mrs. Lawrence contacted the company, they sent the gift boxes to show their remorse for Mountview missing out on the well-deserved publicity.

c. The New England School Development Council, NESDEC, has released projections for student populations in Holden over the next several years. It's believed that the Mountview student population will reach 849 by the 2014 – 2015 school year. It is very unlikely that any building renovations/replacement would be complete by this time.

d. The next Principal's Coffee and Chat will be held on Friday February 18th at 9:00 am.

e. School Kidz Kits order forms will be available soon and will be distributed to current 6th and 7th graders and to current 5th graders at the 6th grade orientation night, which is scheduled for Wednesday March 16th.

f. High school information/selection packets for 8th graders will be distributed on March 11th. Students and parents will need to complete forms regarding elective selection and level placement and return them by March 18th.

vii. The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:16 pm (motion to adjourn: Nancy Alzamora, 2nd: Karen Hughes).