

Meeting Minutes (approved May 19, 2011)
Mountview PTA General Meeting
Thursday April 14, 2011

Attendance: Carolyn Berglund, Carrie Boisselle, Candy Graham, Tina McAndrew, Lisa O'Connor, MaryJude Pigsley, Meredith Ramsey, Randi Setterlund, Patty Walton

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.
- II. Minutes from the March 17, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved (motion to approve: Carrie Boisselle, 2nd: Tina McAndrew).
- III. Treasurer's Report
 - a. The current balance is ~\$39,980, but Session 3 and 4 Homework Zone teacher stipends have not been paid yet. There are 28 students enrolled for Session 4 of Homework Zone, so the profit is expected to be \$1,000 - \$2,000 again this session, even though a new class/teacher has been added.
 - b. SchoolKidz Kits profit is down from last year (\$3,700 last year compared to \$1,700 this year).
- IV. Grant/Stipend request
 - a. Hope Cotton, play director, had requested overhead microphones for the stage at a previous meeting and has obtained a quote for them. Kurlan Music has quoted \$1253.91 for the microphones, which the school staff will install, providing a significant savings in labor costs. These will be able to be moved to a new building, depending on what happens with the building feasibility study. The quoted amount was unanimously approved (motion to approve: Carrie Boisselle, 2nd: Candy Graham).
 - b. A handful of 8th grade girls began a group called the AOKs (Acts of Kindness), which now includes students from all three grades and both boys and girls. They watch out for "loners" or kids who appear to be struggling with something (peers, issues at home, etc). They will anonymously leave a yellow rose in the locker of such kids with a note of encouragement. A grant for \$100, to pay for the roses and notes, was unanimously approved (motion to approve: Carrie Boisselle, 2nd: Tina McAndrew).
 - c. There have been no requests for funds for summer programs from teachers yet. As an incentive for teachers to think about offering programs, Randi Setterlund proposed that the PTA offer a \$200 stipend for a 6 week (1 hour/week) program. Karen Hughes will advertise this on *Mountview News*. Members unanimously approved \$1,000 to cover potential programs (motion to approve: Lisa O'Connor, 2nd: Carrie Boisselle).
- V. Events/Programs
 - a. The Beelzebubs concert/workshop was phenomenal. This program did not make a profit, but the students, teachers and audience involved all raved about the experience.
 - b. Karen Hughes and Peggy Carlson brought a group of girls to WPI to hear an anti-cyberbullying/peer pressure program by Rachel Simmons, author of Odd Girl Out. The program was thought to be exceptional, and the goal is to have a three year rotation of anti-bullying programs involving John Halligan (Ryan's Story), Rachel's Challenge and Rachel Simmons. The latter program is very expensive, so administration is looking into opening the program up to all middle schools in the district and holding it at the high school next year. Karen Hughes requested that the PTA plan to spend about \$1,000 on the program next year for Mountview's share; this will be added to the 2011 - 2012 budget.

- c. A token of our appreciation for Carleen Smith and Beth Rinaldo will be purchased for Secretaries Day on April 27th.
- d. On Monday May 2nd, books will arrive for the Book Fair to be held that week. Coordinator Stephanie Collins will need help setting up, at the Open House Monday night, during the week (especially on Wednesday, which is a half day) and cleaning up on Friday. A volunteer sign-up sheet was distributed.

VI. Officer Nominations

- a. The following were nominated for open positions for the 2011 – 2012 school year: Carolyn Berglund (President), Deneen Barclay (Vice-president), Tina McAndrew (Secretary), Patty Walton (Treasurer). Voting will take place at the May meeting. Both Carolyn and Deneen have previous PTA/PTO experience and will be a welcome addition to the Executive Committee.

VII. Principal Time (Karen Hughes)

- a. Mr. Bell has resigned to pursue a music career and will be leaving at the end of the year.
- b. The next Coffee & Chat will be Friday April 15th at 9:00 am. Mr. Githmark will discuss the parent survey results.
- c. Mr. Githmark has offered to make ConnectEd calls to remind people about the Book Fair.

VIII. New business/open questions

- a. Karen Hughes noted that the “new” cell phone policy is not new; it is just being more strictly enforced. Students are not allowed to have their cell phones on them during the day. Cell phones can be left with certain homeroom teachers or with Karen Hughes if students don't feel comfortable leaving their phone in their locker. Next year, repeat offenders will receive detentions.
- b. Candy Graham had a question regarding spending PTA funds. If parents or teachers know of areas of need, they (if they are a member of the PTA) can attend any PTA meeting and propose the expenditure. Checking with school administration first would be a good idea to make sure funds have not already been set aside for a particular item. Candy will look into some items and bring a list to vote on during the May meeting (e.g., mats for the gym, rugs for the entryway).

IX. The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:50 pm (motion to adjourn: Karen Hughes, 2nd: Carolyn Berglund).