Mount Nittany Elementary School
PTO Meeting
April 12, 2012

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:55 pm by Co-president Kathryn Bainbridge and introductions were made.

Presidents' Remarks: Co-president Kathryn Bainbridge reminded the group that the meeting in May is the last meeting of the year and elections for the Co-president and Treasurer for 2012-2014 will take place. Job descriptions for each role are being developed and will be available at that meeting.

Principal's Remarks: Mrs. Latta commented that April has been another busy month. The school started the month at the Magic School Bus performance. At the end of April, many of the students will be attending dress rehearsals of the Wizard of Oz at the Middle School. The 5th grade PSSAs are Monday-Wednesday of next week and the 4th grade science PSSAs will be the following Monday and Tuesday. The results will be available in July. The school has been considering staffing: there will likely be three second grades and two third grades next year. In September, the School-wide Positive Support program will begin. Seven staff are going through the training at the Intermediate Unit. Regular student awards will be given out and the slogan for the program will be: We are Responsible, Respectful, Safe, and Ready to Learn. The PTO may be asked to provide the bulletin board where information on the award winners will be displayed. This is school wide event that involves students, faculty, staff, bus drivers, cafeteria staff, etc. In early May, Mrs. Latta will be sending home a form for input from parents on their child(ren) and the best learning environment for them. She will use this information when making decisions about classroom assignments for next year.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March 15, 2012 meeting were reviewed. A change in the start time needed to be made. A motion to make the change to the minutes was made by Mindy Sabol and seconded by Caren Bloom-Steidle. The motion passed unanimously. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Caren Bloom-Steidle and seconded by Mindy Sabol. The motion passed unanimously.

Reading and Approval of Treasurer's Report: Shannon Messick provided copies of the April Treasurer's Report. The cost of the yearbooks has been entered into the report and the check will be written this month. Some bills for the Helen Lester Author Visit will need to be paid when received. The discretionary fund will be established in the SCASD accounting office. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Caren Bloom-Steidle and seconded by Mindy Sabol. The motion passed unanimously.

Letters of Communication: Several thank you letters were distributed.

Committee Reports

A. Spirit Wear: Mrs. Belinda will receive a box tomorrow of Spirit Wear. Special Olympic participants and helpers want to wear the t-shirts during the Special Olympics Games and some will be given out to new students. Jamie Cunningham requested feedback on the t-shirts so that she can plan for next year. Could we add the graduation year to the t-shirts for the kindergarteners? It was suggested that we keep the same colors (burgundy and gray) for students and the reverse or gray-on-gray for adults.
B. Scholastic Book Fair: This will be held next month and will be a "buy one, get one free" event.
C. Barnes & Noble Book Fair: A tentative date has been set for November 10, 2012.
D. Box Tops for Education: The PTO Board will be sending home information on the Boxtops for Education, Giant A+ for Education, Empties 4 Cash, and other recycling efforts to encourage families to save these items over the summer. We may send home containers for these to be collected.
E. Giant A+ for Education: See above
F. Empties 4 Cash: Please turn in toner cartridges by the end of the school year so that they can be recycled this summer.
G. Hospitality: No news is available yet on the purchase of tack strips or bulletin boards. Mrs. Latta reported that $4,000-$8,000 may be available for playground equipment. Mr. Poprik would like 3-5 parent representatives to discuss the vision for the playground. Mindy Sabol volunteered to participate and Caren Bloom-Steidle volunteered herself and/or her husband who is a landscape architect. Lisa Edwards and Anne Campbell also volunteered. Funds in the amount of $330.16 are left in the Hospitality account. Mindy Sabol approached Wolf's Furniture regarding seating for the lobby but they do not want the liability that might be associated with that donation. Mindy has contacted Tubbies Furniture; she plans to have feedback available in the fall. Teacher Appreciation Week will be held in late May/early June.
H. Family Fun Nights: The next family fun night will be held on April 26 at Penn Skates. However, this is the same night as the 4th and 5th grade band concert. Apologies extended for the overlap in activities.
I. Exploration Fair: No report.
J. Ice Cream Social: The date is Sunday June 3 from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm. Mary Ellen Hurley is going to check out where the carnival will be held on the MNES playground so that it is close to the pizza and ice cream. The rain location will be in the All-Purpose room. Mary Ellen has talked to Lydia (pizza), Beth Adams (ice cream) and Jen Barber (baskets) who will be participating again this year. Heather

Bodenschatz will probably do book sales again. Dustin Brackbill will not be available to do his FAMOUS CAKE WALK since he will be getting married that weekend. Mary Ellen also checked with Jen Banfield who wants to shadow/co-chair. We need to add to the flyer that the games and food will take place from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm and the raffles and prizes will be given out from 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm. The teachers will be responsible for coordinating classroom baskets

K. 5th Grade Party: No report.

L. Yearbook: The order forms are in and the yearbooks will be delivered. The new class picture company does not provide free classroom composite photos. This will be discussed with the company next year.

M. PTO Newsletter: No report.

N. Author Visit: The author visit occurred today. It seemed to be very successful and was appreciated by all grade levels.

O. Vera Bradley Bingo: The date for 2013 is February 22.

SCASD School Board Update: No report provided.

Unfinished Business: Shannon Messick found an article in *PTO Today* regarding the benefits of eliminating membership dues. Copies of the article were distributed.

Funding Requests: The IST teacher requested $240 ($4/student) to provide a book to each student attending the kindergarten assessment appointments in August. A motion to approve the request was made by Caren Bloom-Steidle; seconded by Anne Campbell. The motion passed unanimously. Marcie Rockey requested $80 for frogs for the kindergarten classes for the fall. A motion to approve the request was made by Mindy Sabol; seconded by Caren Bloom-Steidle. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business: There was a discussion about how the school and the PTO can be involved in student safety. Mrs. Latta will make some inquiries in the district and with the State College Police regarding options.

Announcements: The next meeting will be held on May 10, 2012 in Room 201, Mrs. Styer's classroom. This will be the final meeting of the year.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm. A motion to adjourn was made by Anne Campbell; seconded by Caren Bloom-Steidle. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lisa Davis, Secretary Date