Mount Nittany Elementary School
PTO Meeting
May 10, 2012

MINUTES

The business meeting was called to order at 6:51 pm in Room 201, Mrs. Styers classroom, by co-president Cori Agostinelli Kalupson and introductions were made.

President's Remarks: Cori Agostinelli Kalupson and Kathryn Bainbridge welcomed everyone and expressed appreciation for the inaugural school year at MNES. They also shared what joy it is to serve as PTO officers and the need for two officers this upcoming school year. Cori shared that for next year, PTO minutes and agendas will be sent via e-mail to accelerate the approval process of each meeting.

Principal's Remarks: Mrs. Latta expressed her appreciation for the PTO this school year and shared that a kindergarten camp will be held this summer from August 9-11 as part of a kindergarten orientation. She stated that over 40 children have already registered for this program. Mrs. Latta also shared that the Positive Behavior Support Plan is gearing up for next school year. The teachers involved will have gone through five training meetings before the beginning of next school year and that there will be more information about the program sent home with students. A first-day school assembly will be held to outline the program to the students. Mrs. Latta shared that the program involves a school-wide slogan that likely will be stated each morning before the Pledge of Allegiance and a "paw tickets" reward system will take place throughout the school year to reinforce the positive behavior program. Mrs. Latta ended by stating how wonderful the student body has been for her this school year and she looks forward to another great school year.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the April 12, 2012 meeting were approved as read.

Reading and Approval of Treasurer's Report: Shannon Messick, the PTO treasurer, reviewed the PTO Budget Summary Report for 2011-2012 thus far. Much conversation occurred on the new fundraising approaches for next year, including removing the Great American fundraiser and the Marianna hoagie fundraiser. The PTO officers expressed the need of teachers and the principal to providing funding requests early in the school year as a means to implement additional fundraisers as needed. Shannon ended her two-year term at this PTO meeting. Many, many thanks to Shannon over the past two years for her amazing work and organizational skills as treasurer!

Election of Officers for 2012-2014: Cori Agostinelli Kalupson expressed her enjoyment serving at PTO co-president over the past two years and looks forward to working with the PTO as it continues its support of MNES. Kathryn Bainbridge reviewed the 'job descriptions' of PTO officers. At this time, no volunteers stepped forward to volunteer as co-president or treasurer for the 2012-2014 terms. It was expressed that the PTO cannot function with less than 3 officers and the PTO will need to dissolve if no one steps forward to fill these two positions.

Letters of Communication: Numerous letters of appreciation were distributed, including expressions of thanks by teachers and students.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Spirit Wear: Each incoming kindergartener will receive a Mount Nittany Elementary t-shirt the first day of school as a gift from the PTO. The t-shirts are maroon with gray writing. Adult t-shirts as well as additional student shirts and sweatshirts will be available by order at the beginning of next school year. A women's fit shirt will continue to be available as well as the standard cut shirt. Overstock of Spirit Wear as well as Cat's Meow schools will be for sale during the Ice Cream Social.
B. Scholastic Book Fair: Ericka Ahn, Cheri Jehu, and Heather Bodenschatz chaired these events this year. The spring sale was a huge success with every child receiving one free book as well as a BOGO sale. The sales were $2,400 with $1,950 scholastic dollars used for the invoice and $150 scholastic dollars remaining.
C. Barnes and Noble Book Fair: This event will be held on November 12, 2012 at Barnes and Noble.
D. Box Tops for Education: Caren Bloom-Steidle chaired this committee this year. A flyer will be sent home the end of this school year with a baggie asking families to continue to collect Box Tops throughout the summer. Over $2,000 was raised this year with Box Tops. ***Please note that expired box tops do NOT count toward our school earnings.***
E. Giant A+ for Education: Lisa Wolf chaired this committee this year. Information will be sent home with the youngest child of each family the beginning of next school year. Individuals are encouraged to use the form sent home to sign up or register on-line.
F. Empties4Cash: Lisa Davis chaired this committee this year. Over $50 was raised thi year with Empties4Cash.
G. Hospitality: Mindy Sabol chaired this committee this year. Much thanks to Mindy's hard work, and all those who helped her, in providing great treats and gifts to the staff at MNES all year!!!
H. Family Fun Night: Shannon Messick and Ariann Stephenson worked in providing Penn Skates and a penny carnival this school year. A dessert social will be held the beginning of next school year to welcome all back to MNES.

I. Exploration Fair: Jane Charlton chaired this committee and provided an amazing event with a great giveaway to all the participants! This is a winter event that allows children to explore an area of interest and create a display highlighting the given topic. Past participants have shared about making bubbles, horses, rabbits, etc.

J. Ice Cream Social: Mary Ellen Hurley will be chairing this event for the last time this year. Jennifer Bansfield has offered to take the event over for next school year.

K. 5th Grade Party: No report. Mary Ellen Hurley stated that she would email her information from years' past to whomever would like it regarding the 5th grade party.

L. Yearbook: Jen McCann and Rachelle Coffey produced an amazing year book!!!

M. PTO newsletter: Sarah Williamson will be distributing one last PTO newsletter for the school year. She will include a calendar of events to come as well as a blurb about the need for PTO officers. To send information to Sarah, please email her and cc: Lisa Davis, PTO secretary. This information also will be shared on the PTO website. A PTO Facebook page has also been created as a means of sharing information.

NEW BUSINESS

Co-presidents Cori Agostinelli-Kalupson and Kathryn Bainbridge again asked the group for volunteers for PTO officers and no volunteers stepped forward. Encouragement will be given during the summer with hopes of finding officers and they will be voted in during the September 2012 meeting.

Funding Requests: All funding requests were granted for the 2011-2012 school year, including the summer reading program at the MNES library in 2012!!! This amounts to $37.11 per child! The annual $50 Schlow donation funding request was motioned by Mindy Sabol; seconded by Anne Campbell. The motion passed unanimously. Jen Tranell, first grade teacher, requested $35 for her end-of-the-year classroom live auction. A motion to approve the request was made by Caren Bloom-Steidle; seconded by Mindy Sabol. Mrs. Latta and Mrs. Rockey requested $984.80 for the Positive Behavior program for posters ($800.00) and trainer binders ($184.80). This request was denied due to the lack of funds of PTO at the end of the school year to support the new request. Discussion was had on finding 'sponsors' in the community for this program and Mindy Sabol expressed interest in working with Mrs. Latta on community sponsorships. Sarah Williamson requested $550 for Field Day for reusable water bottles for all students and snacks/drinks for all students. This request was denied. PTO officers again stressed the importance of funding requests to be made early in the school year. A funding request for Little Buffalo of $745 was brought to the meeting. These funds had already been approved and set aside for this event.

Karen Styers requested $900.90 for next school year for National Geographic readers. The amount is higher than last years' amount of $604.73 due to the increase in printing costs. This request was tabled until the September 2012 meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathryn Barinbridge 6/24/12

Kathryn Bainbridge, Co-president Date