

# PTO Meeting Minutes

## September 2008

**Attendance:** Kim Newell, Erin Steele, Stacie Jones, Jeanne Stroh, Angie Matthews, Christy Boerner, Amy Donahue, Jantzie Bluthardt, Kimberly Stewart, Katie Dake, Joanie Doperalski, Amy Schwein, Yolanda Howard, Amy Sramek, Jolene Meyer, Angela Wilson, Jill Hupe, Kara White, Courtney Oviatt, Katie Fritz, Tami Schults, Brad Ficke, Bruce Coleman, Shelly Coleman, and Lynne Umscheid.

**First Day of School:** PTO purchased cinnamon rolls, juice, and coffee for the teachers and staff on the first day of school. The teachers all enjoyed it.

**Welcome Kit for New Teacher:** Discussion on whether to give a small gift to the four new teachers this year. Gift would include items such as pencils, post-it notes, paper clips, etc. Courtney Oviatt volunteered to shop, assemble, and deliver gifts. Motion was made by Amy Schwein, Stacie Jones seconded the motion.

**Build-A-Book:** Date is set for October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from 6:30-8:00p.m. Joanie Doperalski and Amy Schwein will be chairing this event. Mrs. Doperalski will be using library funds from the book fair to purchase a “build-a-book” kit for each student at Central. The students and their families can come to Central on the designated date and illustrate and author their book with the help of their parents. Families will also have the option of purchasing one extra book for \$6.00 for siblings not attending Central. Mrs. Doperalski provided fliers to all explaining/advertising the event and those will be distributed to students at a later date. 300 kits have been ordered and will arrive in October. PTO responsibilities for the event will include: providing snacks, helping direct and manage families, help distribute kits the night of the event, making signs, making reminder stickers to put on each student the day of the event, and helping to organize kits in alphabetical order by last name.

**Parent Teacher Conference Meals:** PTO usually provides a meal for the teachers on Thursday during the fall and spring conferences. We will plan to do this again this year. Yolanda Howard will be the chair for the fall conference meal and Courtney Oviatt and Yolanda Howard will be the chair for the spring conference meal. Specifics will be discussed at a later date.

**Fall Family Fun Night:** Much discussion took place on what the theme should be the fall family fun night. Because of the wonderful response in past years, it was decided to have a family science night on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Amy Sramek, Amy Schwein, Angie Matthews, and Jantzie Bluthardt agreed to chair this event.

**Science Fair:** PTO will also help to organize the first Elementary Science Fair with the help of the science fair committee (Bob Johnson, Shane Neel, Jeanne Stroh, Deb Rice, Nancy Wagner, and Amy Sramek). The science fair will give children preschool age

through second grade the opportunity perform and display a science experiment. Each experiment will be awarded a ribbon or medal. The fair will be promoted at the family science night and kids can get ideas from the activities they do that night or from the new science curriculum. Ideas and suggestions will be sent home to parents as well as helpful websites. It was decided to try to have the science fair take place at the end of January. Mrs. Stroh will set the date after consulting her calendar and the committee. The committee will organize this event and work out the details with the help of PTO as needed.

**Teacher Christmas Gifts:** Each year PTO purchases a Christmas gift for each teacher. Last year each teacher received a leapster game. Amy Donahue, Tami Schults, and Stacie Jones will be the chair for this. They will email all of the teachers with their requests and we will decide later what we will give this year.

**Taco Dinner:** This annual PTO event helps to raise funds for PTO and the classrooms. It usually takes place in April. Erin Steele and Jen Faulkner will chair the event again this year.

**Teacher Appreciation Gift:** During teacher appreciation week in May PTO usually tries to give or do something nice for the teachers to show them how much we appreciate all that they do. Kara White agreed to chair this event.

**Dyers Reciepts:** Jill Hupe has agreed to sort and calculate dyers receipts this year.

**Display Board:** Kim Newell suggested that PTO should have a portable display board with pictures from past events and information about what PTO is all about. The board could be displayed at conferences, kindergarten round-up, parent night, back to school night, etc. Brad Ficke agreed to design and assemble the board. Volunteers are needed to help take and submit pictures from PTO sponsored events.

**Fundraisers:** Last year it was decided that PTO will do a holiday fun pack fundraiser. The picture Christmas ornaments will be available for parents to purchase when placing school picture orders. PTO will receive \$2.00 for each item purchased. Kim Newell shared information about some fundraiser ideas that she had received. One was to sell picture frames with a stand from prism inc. It was decided that the idea would be tabled until the spring. Another idea was the penguin patch holiday shoppe fundraiser which provides kids with a safe place to shop for Christmas gifts online. Mrs. Stroh has had experience with this fundraiser and shared her thoughts and experience with this kind of fundraiser. It was decided that we would not do this fundraiser for various reasons.

**Teacher Thank You:** Katie Fritz suggested that PTO sponsor an ice cream social type party for teachers and staff to boost moral and thank them for their cooperation during the gym renovations and for being so accomadating. It was that the event will take place on a Wednesday afternoon at 3:30, date to be announced, in the music room. PTO will purchase the ice cream and volunteers will be asked to donate the toppings, bowls, spoons, etc. Katie Fritz, Jantzie Bluthardt, and Angie Matthews will be the chairpersons

for this event. Courtney Oviatt will look in to borrowing an ice cream machine from her church.

**Lunch Room Discussion:** Several parents voiced concern about the lunch room protocol. Concerns were voiced about the learning table, the lunchroom staff, the “no talking” rule, and the time limit. Mrs. Stroh discussed several issues with the parents and updated everyone on the surveys taken last year. There were only 3 complaints voiced on the surveys turned in. Mrs. Stroh ensured all of the parents that the students would be able to talk at lunch and that she would speak to the lunchroom staff about their actions in the lunchroom and trying to enforce the teachings of love and logic. Parents were satisfied with those actions at this time. No other concerns were voiced.