

West Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 6th, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Amy Flinn, West Elementary Principal, at 6:00 p.m.

Those individuals attending the meeting included: Jody Fowles, Janet Armstead, Curtis Eckart, Marcia Hermes, Kelley Nordberg, Susan Huddleston, Amy Flinn, Sherry Helus, Karla Rosell, Janet Vance, Tina Callender, Amanda Blush, and Debbie Hoffman

Minutes from the January 3rd meeting were presented and copies were distributed to the individuals in attendance. Kelley Nordberg moved that the minutes be accepted as written. The motion was seconded by Janet Vance. The individuals in attendance approved the minutes unanimously.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Karla Rosell. The checking account balance as of March 5, 2008 was \$948.86. The balance reflected credits and debits paid out since the January meeting. The debits included: a payment to Club's Choice for \$140.10 (balance due on our account), a payment to Jennifer Pipkin (reimbursement) for \$10.00, and a payment to HB Stereo \$9,299.40 (for televisions), a credit from General Mills (December Box Tops) \$341.40. The savings account balance as of March 5, 2008 was \$4,744.34. This total accounts for the 9,299.40 that was transferred to the checking account to cover the television sets. No additional bills were presented at the meeting.

Correspondence

A Thank You Note was received from Tina Callender thanking the PTO for all of their support and assistance with the Jump Rope for Heart.

Committee Reports:

Fundraiser for '08-'09 – Club's Choice was mentioned as being a good fundraiser for West Elementary. Next year, it was mentioned that there needs to be an increase in advertising in order for individuals to see how the proceeds are used at West Elementary. It was discussed that advertising be increased to show how the funds are used at West Elementary. It was also mentioned to use Carnival money for the purchase of the last few televisions sets and then to reimburse the fund when the fundraising funds come into the account. A possible raffle towards the television sets was mentioned as a way to help offset the costs of the television sets as well as giving individuals an opportunity to contribute to our school technology goal.

Box Tops and Labels – The second submission was made for Box Tops to the General Mills Company. The total of our April check should be \$152.50. Dyer's Register Receipts will be collected through the end of March. Our submission deadline for Dyer's Receipts is within the first two weeks of April.

Jump Rope for Heart – Mrs. Flinn and Mrs. Callender discussed Jump Rope for Heart and how the program has changed throughout the years. Originally, the students gave a \$5.00 donation and they received a jump rope. The American Heart Association would prefer that the students collect between \$15.00 and \$30.00 in order to be eligible for a jump rope. West Elementary averages around \$500 in donations for the American Heart Association for the jump ropes each year. They are currently looking into other options versus continuing Jump Rope for Heart as Jump Rope for Heart. One suggestion was to have a Family Fun Night where a donation would be given by families in order to benefit the Physical Education Department at West Elementary. The money would be used to help replace and update equipment that is needed for the Physical Education Department that requires funds beyond Mrs. Callender's yearly budget. Some big ticket items in the Physical Education Department that need replacing would be the mats used for the gymnastics unit. Over time, the foam breaks down in the mats and replacement costs for one mat can be quite costly. Mrs. Flinn and Mrs. Callender will work together to come up with an idea prior to the April PTO Meeting that they will bring back to present.

Parent/Teacher Conference Dinner for Teachers- Sarah Bloom and Chrissy Gamino have been working on the details for the dinner. At this time, they are planning on having a catered dinner featuring Mr. Goodcents Sandwiches.

Old Business:

An update was provided by Amy Flinn on the Classroom TV project. She stated that the wiring and installation would take place in the time leading up to and through Spring Break. \$13,000 was matched from PTO funds from the Board of Education. They are hoping to have two Interwrite Pads per grade level in the very near future that can be used with the television sets. It was brought to the PTO's attention that there were some additional expenses that were encountered with the Classroom TV project. That included the movement and removal of bulletin boards.

Information about SchoolKidz will be available soon. Watch for more information around Parent/Teacher Conference time.

New Business:

Spring Play Day – Will be held for West Elementary 3rd and 4th graders on May 9th. A Play Day helper note will be sent home. A motion for PTO to purchase popsicles was made by Kelly Nordberg to purchase popsicles for the 3rd and 4th graders. It was seconded by Susan Huddleston. The motion passed. Susan Huddleston was going to check into the Swann's Outlet Store for popsicles.

5th Grade Celebration – Will be held on Thursday, May 22nd. Curtis Eckart stated that he would be responsible for making sure that the shelter house at the park as well as the swimming pool were reserved for that date. PTO asked what their responsibility is for the 5th Grade Celebration and the response given was to help with financing. Around \$400 is spent every year in order to help with the cost of inflatable/game equipment, the

cost of the swimming pool rental, and the cost of life guards for the swimming portion of the day. Sign-up sheets were going to be made available at Parent/Teacher Conferences for parents to sign-up that are willing to help out with a station the day of May 22nd.

Heart of America Band Concert - Janet Armstead came and spoke to the PTO with Marcia Hermesch about the Heart of America Band. They are going to be having a concert at the Wamego High School Auditorium on Sunday, November 9, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. This is a musical group made up of volunteer musicians from all over Kansas and they travel to various communities to put on a concert. They were asking if the West PTO would help sponsor the concert. The proceeds from the concert would go to the Honors Choir from St. George as well as to the Music Department at West Elementary. The PTO at West would need to find volunteers for taking ticket money, as well as providing two or three volunteers to handout fliers/programs. Marcia Hermesch mentioned, that the proceeds could possibly go towards stage lighting for the stage at West Elementary. Karla Rosell made the motion to have the West Elementary PTO assist with the concert. The motion was seconded by Janet Vance and Kelley Nordberg. Motion passed.

Chamber of Commerce Mother/Father Letters – Due April 28th

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 3, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the West Library.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.