

Harrison Elementary PTA Minutes for January 8, 2007

- Meeting called to order by Lisa Giambattista at 6:40 P.M.

Members present:

Lisa Giambattista, Mary Garland, Lisa Burkhardt, Carie O'Banion, Cheryl Carlson, Jane O'Connor, Ellie Wolcott, Karen Heimuli, Elizabeth Kavanagh, Jeanne E. Dunn, Debbie Simpson

- Secretary not present to submit October 9, 2006 minutes. October minutes to be reviewed at next meeting with January 8, 2007 minutes.

- Treasurer not present but did submit report for PTA review. Carie O'Banion moved to accept and approve treasurer report. Done.

- No CAC Board report from Beth White due to no December 2006 CAC meeting

- More funding needed for the upper playground purchase and installation:

Liz Kavanagh presented information on a brick pavers fundraiser through in-town company, **Name Bricks**. Pavers may be purchased and engraved 16 spaces (including blank spaces between words) per line at the following prices:

1 – 2 lines \$17 per paver

3 lines \$20 per paver

Discussion regarding the project seemed very favorable. Some concern regarding base price of each brick paver with the thought that this amount of money going directly to the school could be better used. Several members felt it appropriate to charge \$50, \$75 and even \$100/brick to raise the funds. Discussed it's about 50/50 that people either want something tangible for their donation versus those who just want to give and not be bothered with selling or buying something. Overall consensus was to proceed with fundraiser.

The ideas of pavers placed along the path to the playground, near the playground, or even around a garden area were accepted. Mrs. Garland will talk to the school contractors to find out what kind of square footage we could use and where. **Name Bricks** states that we can place 5 bricks/square foot. Liz will look into materials Washington and Columbian schools used to promote their successful pavers projects and find out prices they set and profits they made and will prepare a flyer for our use.

Point made that this project could begin as the main playground fundraiser but then be an on-going yearly fundraiser. Members liked the idea of students being able to return to Harrison after graduation to see their names on the pavers linking them to not only attending the school, but also supporting the upper playground and other school projects through this fundraiser. Current and former teachers, school personnel, students, parents and grandparents as well as local businesses and neighbors should be given the chance to purchase pavers.

Lisa Giambattista shared another fund raising idea selling **Butter Braids**. Information passed around for member review. Several members familiar with the product spoke in favor of it. They've experienced the product through preschool and church programs. May consider this in the spring or next fall.

- Mrs. Garland talked about the following:

School collection for the Heart Center and how involved the Scouts, Staff, Students and Parents were. Harrison raised \$650.45 by collecting donations at school and earned mismatch, crazy hair, and pajama days which were fun, though a bit crazy, for staff and students! It was suggested we use a similar strategy to raise money for the playground and everyone agreed since our playground

collection jar has only raised about \$150 to date. We will mark the jar with different levels for students and staff to earn different fun days. It was recommended that the fun days be scheduled right before vacation or weekend days and not in a row.

Spelling Bee carried out by Carie O'Banion with help from Lynne Bonham and Cindy Gensler. Our winning students will go to TAC to compete on January 19th.

No school Fri., Jan. 12th (teacher work day) or Mon., Jan. 15th (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

After school activities just completed include the Homework Club, Chess Club, and Girls' basketball.

Next semester Harrison will again offer the Homework Club after school, and 4th and 5th grade Chess Club and the 6th grade Boys' basketball team. During the noon hour over lunch a small Homework Club will be offered for those who cannot attend after school. Starting in January of this year, a noon Book Club for K-3rd will meet the last Friday of each month.

Upcoming PTA events include the following:

Thursday, January 18th: Harrison night at CiCi's Pizza on Saddlecreek beginning at 5 P.M.

Friday, January 26th: Pancake Man/family Game night/\$300 Great Wolf Lodge raffle from 5-7 p.m.

Friday, February 23th: Family Fun Night/Talent show

Week of March 5 – 9 is Teacher Appreciation Week headed up by Ellie Wolcott and Cheryl Carlson.

Committee chairs will be calling and emailing for volunteer help so please be generous with your time! Cub Scouts will help with clean up at the Talent Show. Everyone is reminded to recycle aluminum cans at our PTA events and Scouts will help facilitate better collection.

Discussed ideas for Pancake Man/Family game night. Will have designated areas for various board games for families to play after dinner. Suggested we have a person (or persons) responsible for each game area. For example, Yahtzee, Twister, Uno, Checkers, Chess, and maybe some unique games such as the new Blokus. We could use the open floor area in the gym, the Media Center, the hallway on the 2nd floor, and designated rooms.

Talent show sign-up forms will be going home soon. We will most likely offer a hot-dog meal and picnic atmosphere like last year—BYOB, that is bring your own blanket ☺ and find a good spot to watch the show! This is a popular event!

- Lisa Burkhardt reported:

Successful fall Harrison t-shirt sales and looking forward to new shirts in the spring.

LifeTouch year book sales: 74 sold, and 26 more needed to meet our minimum. Cost is \$18 ea.

- Lisa Giambattista reported:

Harrison Directory was completed and sent out before Christmas. She and Dixie Wagner will work on this project again next year with the goal of having directories sent out by October 1st.

Hy-Vee Coupon books -- about 60 left at \$5 each

Next meeting on Monday, February 12, at Dundee Presbyterian, 6:30 – 7:45 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.