

Minutes from March 12th PTA Meeting

Mrs. Garland's report:

Thank you to Ellie Wolcott for organizing Staff Appreciation Week, to Cheryl Carlson for the fabulous lunch, and to all who made the week so wonderful!! .

Thursday, March 15 is kindergarten round up. If anyone knows anyone in the neighborhood who is eligible please inform them, Harrison will continue to have an all-day kindergarten program next year.

Student Led Conferences are on March 27 and 29. Also taking place is the Scholastic Book Fair. This year the children that show up for the kindergarten round up will be getting a coupon for a free book worth \$5.00 or \$5.00 off their entire purchase at the Book Fair.

To-do list for this month: Get nominating committee together for next year's officers. Lisa Burkhardt and Cheryl Carlson agreed to help Mrs. Garland with this. We also need to get committee for choosing the Wiese Scholarship together (6th grade parents are not eligible to help with this). And finally, we need someone to help with the PTA State Life Awards.

Carie O'Banion, teacher representative

Teachers and staff members were very appreciative for the wonderful week of goodies and special treatment. Many sent thank-you notes of appreciation which were passed around. (Mrs. Anderson, Miss Barnes, Mrs. Barsness, Ms Brodkey, Mrs. Gradoville, Mr. Kosch, Mrs. Lenz, Mrs. Lewandowski, Mrs. O'Banion, Mrs. Owen, Mrs. Powers, Mrs. Scharton, Mrs. Schooler, Mrs. Suter, and Mrs. Tunzer)

CAT tests will be going on in grades 2nd and 5th.

The Sherwood Foundation (funded by Buffett money) has donated money to all OPS libraries. The money will be used for both books and aesthetics. Harrison will be in the second wave of this and will receive \$35,000 next fall. If each book costs approximately \$15.00 that will be an increase of 2,000 books added to our school library. Currently we have 9,500 books in our library. Some of the money will be to replace books that are falling

apart or add additional copies of books that are extremely popular, for example Capitan Underpants. The second phase is will come later and Mrs. O'Banion was unsure of how much that will be.

Guest speaker: Jody Extrand, Innisbrook

Jody came and talked about different ideas about products kids can make and items they could sell like wrapping paper. She mainly spoke about a project kids could do with the art teacher to make tiles that could be displayed in the building. It would be a keepsake similar to the brick pavers in that it would be personalized, but she explained it doesn't have to be for fundraising. The cost is \$8-10 depending which size tile or we could sell them for a larger amount. Other items that family members like to purchase are pillow cases, t-shirts, sweatshirts etc... She also showed us samples of their wrapping paper and provided us with samples of chocolates Innisbrook sells. She said she has worked with Harrison in the past and would be happy to work with us again.

Lisa Giambattista, president's report:

The cell phone tower issue was discussed briefly, no information to report; however, the group thought the PTA might possibly want to monitor the emissions from the cell tower in the interest of our students and staff. We should get a reading before the cell tower is in place and continue afterwards.

The Giambattistas have a DVD of the Talent Show they are offering to sell for a low cost, we must send out written notification before distributing in case parents/students do not want to be included in the production. We had a great turnout and made a few dollars to add to the Playground fund.

Playground Project is up to \$5,600 and we are still waiting to hear on some grants. It was suggested that we should put articles in local newsletters to say "We're coming back and we need a playground"; hopefully we could generate some funds from the neighborhood. If anyone is interested in writing an article/articles please contact Mrs. Garland.

Mary Hawbaker is in charge of the In Play game cards/game night fundraiser. With every 4 cards kids sell, they will receive 1 free card for themselves. Game night is held on Thursday, April 19, no school on Friday, April 20. In Play will also give us a percentage back on the food purchased that evening.

There are still Hy-Vee coupon books left. We need to sell the rest of those very soon! Anyone who would like to purchase them, please contact Lisa Giambattista at Harrison, 554-8535. The books are \$5.00 each with the first coupon being \$5.00 off.

Other items:

May 25, 2007 was going to be a packing day, but with the recent snow days, and students in elementary needing 1,032 hours Mrs. Garland was unsure when a packing day will occur. Even though they have added minutes to the day previously, that won't work in this case. She will keep us updated.

Star Grants have been turned in and the Star Grant Committee will meet soon to sort those out.