

Central School PTO Meeting
Friday, April 15, 2011

Introduction: The meeting began at 9:08 am. at the Central School library. Board members in attendance were the following: Jeannine Glavas, Jeanine Vaia, Allyn Pilewski, Patrick O’Laughlin, Samantha Durst, Tracy Sloan, Erin Durkin and Kate Nessinger.

Minutes: Erin Durkin made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from March 11, 2011. Tracy Sloan seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Officer’s Reports: Kate Nessinger spoke for Greg Nessinger regarding finishing up the stenciling on the first grade blacktop play area. Volunteers are needed, but no date has been set yet.

1st VP’s Report: Erin Durkin reported on the March 15 Board of Education meeting. Erin stated that Dr Lamberson read a press release reporting that District 96 won an Academic Excellence award. Erin stated that Governor Quinn plans to consolidate the school districts from 868 to 300. Dr. Limperis mentioned that there will be a state sponsored meeting in Cicero Thursday. There was a discussion about a letter writing campaign to Springfield. Erin Durkin and Tracy Sloan encourage all committee chairs to turn in their committee folders even if you will be chairing the committee next year. Tracy Sloan reported that they are finalizing the committee chair and room parent forms and will be sending them out in the next couple weeks.

Co-Presidents’ Report: Samantha Durst reported on the Safety Traffic Plan. In partnership with the Riverside Police, school administration and PTO Board, those on the safety traffic committee include the following: Amy Hill, who works at Children’s Hospital, and is involved in accident prevention there; Charles Clarkson who works for the railroad and is the police liaison for the committee, and Stefanie Dockendorf, a graphic designer. A pilot program is planned for to resolve problems before launching the procedure next year. The new safety plan is scheduled to start in May and run until the end of the school year. A parent evaluation will go out at the end of the school year. Samantha reported that Kindergarteners through third graders will be dropped off in front in a designated zone from 8:05-8:20. Sam stated that drop off and pick up will be on the passenger’s side of the car at the curb. Fourth and fifth graders will line up in the back of the school where there will be 5 designated drop-off sites. Sam reported that tardy students enter through the front doors. The patrols will help the children line up. Traffic on Akenside will run southbound and only allow right turns. Dr Limperis stated that she will be sharing plans with Hauser on Wednesday. Samantha reported that Riverside will send out a newsflash and Central will be handing out maps to inform the parents. Volunteers will be needed to open car doors the first week. Most other schools have pick up/drop off procedures. Jeannine Glavas reported on the nominating committee for Melinda Brom. The slate for next year’s PTO board is as follows: Co-Presidents are Jeannine Glavas and Amy Jacksic; 1st VP’s are Erin Durkin and Tracy Sloan; 2nd VP is Sue Pival; 3rd VP is Jeanine Vaia; Treasurer is Angela Izzo; Recording Secretary is Aberdeen Ozga; Communications Director is Stefanie Dockendorf; and Parliamentarian is Patrick O’Laughlin. The slate was voted on one by one and the slate passed.

2nd VP's Report: Samantha Durst reported for Sue Pipal. Samantha stated that there has been an early philanthropy request. Mrs. Kristoff, who teaches the Quest program, has requested 17 tickets to the physics day at the Marriott Great America. The tickets will go to 12 students, 4 chaperones and 1 teacher. This event is sponsored by Fermilab and the students will learn about speed and acceleration. Mrs Kristoff is requesting a total of \$382.00 from the PTO. Each individual who attends will pay \$10.00 to cover the additional costs. Allyn Pilewski made a motion that \$382.00 be taken from the PTO philanthropy fund for Quest. Aberdeen Ozga seconded the motion. The motion passed. Samantha Durst stated fundraising is suggesting we minimize the number of fundraisers we now offer. Samantha proposed that we discontinue Great Lakes Scrip and Riverside Foods. These fundraisers can be added back into the mix if needed in the future. Samantha made a motion to continue with these fundraiser for next year: Innisbrook, Central 100% Fund, Target, Kids Original Works, Brick Pavers, Box Tops/Labels, and Auction for 2012-13. Erin Durkin seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3rd VP's Report: Jeanine Vaia reported on her need to increase the hospitality budget for next year to cover costs of coffee, the Veteran's Day reception, staff recital, babysitting for PTO meetings, installation luncheon and Board of Education dinner. Jeanine Vaia made the motion to increase the hospitality budget to \$250.00. Kate Nessinger seconded the motion. The motion passed. Jeanine reported that she will be collecting \$5.00 this spring for district calendars. The calendar will be available at the first day of school reception or can be sent home in the child's backpack that day. The student directory will be available to order at the end of August. The district calendar will be available online, and the Directory Committee is working on putting the Directory online with password access. Jeanine also reported that the school will share the contact information with the PTO this year. Parents can request that their information not be shared. Jeanine stated that the installation luncheon order form will go out the first week of May. The cost is \$20.00. Free babysitting is provided.

Treasurer's Report: Patrick O'Laughlin reported that these item changes occurred in the past month: \$100.00 was added to the %100 Fund, \$200.00 was raised by Pavers, \$50.00 was raised by Riverside Foods cards, \$426.00 was raised by Adopt a Painting. Patrick stated \$2,000.00 was paid out to Artist in Residence. \$429.00 was paid for the ice skating party which was \$71.00 under budget. Patrick reminded us to turn in receipts. Patrick asked to be notified if committee chairs need an increase in budget.

Fundraisers:

Riverside Foods: Jane Wilhelm reported that the %100 fund has raised \$4,755.00 and \$1,000 from last year totaling \$5,755.00. Riverside Foods has raised \$250.00. Great Lakes Scrip will place another order.

Artist in Residence: Dawn Gmitro reported that she sat in sessions with Brian Fox Ellis and received all positive feedback. There was a good turn out at the Riverside library story telling event.

RAIN: Mary Komperda reported that RAIN will host a sensory talk at Riverside library on April 24 with Christy Walloch Occupational Therapy professor from Rush University.

Mary stated that RAIN will be very active next year getting information to teachers, applying for grants, and providing education to the community about special needs. Mary reported that Stefanie Dockendorf created several wonderful logos for the group. RAIN has a facebook page.

Adopt a Painting: Allyn Pilewski reported that Chris Hajer is taking down the Adopt a Painting website today. There are 10-11 more prints to be framed. Allyn stated that a philanthropy request will be made to cover the costs of the remainder of the unframed paintings. Allyn hopes that all prints will be reframed by May 2012.

Science in a Can: Jeannine Glavas reported for Jennifer Hepker Royer. The "Science in a Can" committee is offering 4 experiments in a 4 week period of time. The committee is considering planning a science fair for next year. The first meeting regarding the science fair is this Tuesday.

School Supply Program: Jennifer Sedivy reported that the school supply website is open: www.epipacks.com. A feedblitz will go out and will provide the link. Supplies will be delivered to the school.

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon: Jeannine Glavas reported for Maura Braun that a volunteer sheet is being passed for the teacher's Chew Chew luncheon on Tuesday, May 3.

Teacher Appreciation Week: Lynda Murphy reported that there will be a number of raffle prizes for the teachers. DeAnn Gruber reported that there will be a flyer including activities. The front hall will be decorated. A recipe booklet will be given to all teachers and staff.

Turn off TV Week: Allyn Pilewski reported that Family Fun Night was a success and the Girl Scouts learned that it is fun to give. Turn off TV raffle tickets are being collected , prizes will be given out Tuesday.

Principal's Report: Dr Limperis reported that the last day of school is Thursday June 2 for fifth graders. The clap out will be at 2:50 and the picnic at 10:30. The last day of school for grades K-4 is Friday June 3 and will last 15 minutes. Dr Limperis stated that the band concert Wednesday night was awesome and that there is an Orchestra concert next Wednesday. Dr Limperis reported that the April 20 E-Backpack includes a class placement form. Next year, 2nd and 3rd grades will have 4 teachers. The special education classroom will be reorganized to make room for this. Dr Limperis stated that May 6 is a staff development day and there will be no school. The teachers will discuss the school architectural plans, insurance, University of Chicago math curriculum, and the science curriculum.

Teacher's Representative: Mr Elgeness reported that this is the first year for a student council. The students chose the "Share your Soles" project in which many gently-used shoes were donated to this charity. The student council also organized the spare change drive for tsunami relief and make cranes for each \$1.00 donation. Two students demonstrated making paper cranes for the PTO. The cranes are being strung up in the foyer. Mr Elgeness reported that the students read the book *Sadako* in Social Studies class and they fold the cranes in class or at recess. There are now 550 cranes. Mr. Elgeness reported that Osh Kosh B'gosh will donate an article of

clothing to Japan for each crane made. There will be a bake sale and a book sale at the Open House Thursday.

Other Business:

Olmsted Society Poetry Contest: Aberdeen Ozga encouraged the PTO to take our children out to experience the landscape and to have them write reflections in poetic form. “Reflections on Riverside” is open to students in grades 1-8. Prizes will be awarded, a book will be bound, and entries are due by April 30.

Parent Education: Jeannine Glavas reported that the movie “Race to Nowhere” will be showing at Ames on April 27. Jeannine mentioned other movies and books including “Waiting for Superman” and “Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mom.” Jeannine encouraged the PTO parents to avail themselves of the information and to share such information and resources with the PTO.

Ecology Club: A photograph of Central’s Ecology Club snowshoeing in Riverside is in the April issue of the “PTO Today” magazine. The snowshoes were funded through the PTO. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am. Minutes are respectfully submitted by Kate Nessinger, Recording Secretary.