

Fleming PTO Minutes for March 19, 2008

Present: Sharon Sturm, Toni Finnegan, Dan Ryan, Saramichelle Stultz, Karyn Roberts, Sarah Zobel, Deb Carlin, Carol Hutcheon, Ralph Constanza, Music Teacher, Joel Rasco, Physical Education Teacher.

Welcomes and Introductions: Sharon welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introductions were made by everyone in attendance.

Principal's Report: Dan reported that the Reading Enrichment Group had begun. He also reported that Fleming had applied for a State grant for teacher training to support special education evaluation and the advancement of learning for every child through research-based instruction and using real work from the students. Unfortunately Fleming was not chosen to receive the grant because it did not receive 100% support from staff and did not apply as a district-wide applicant. Those requirements for the grant were not clear in the application. Fleming will still strive to address the core goals of the grant. Dan stated that there was a second wave of the flu among teachers, that the staff was busy preparing for work on student placements for next year and that there would be an announcement soon about the retirement of a 5th grade teacher and the hiring process begun for a replacement. He reported that there were new teaming structures and new scheduling plans in the works that would be explained to parents in a letter home next week. He reminded those interested to attend the Principal's Chat on Friday, April 4th at 8:00 a.m. Dan thanked the PTO for sponsoring the Movie and Game Night as those who attended really enjoyed that social time.

Staff Report: Joel Rasco stated that the lemonade and goldfish snack given out on Field Day last year was a favorite by the kids and requested that again this year. Field Day would take place in early June. Ralph Constanza requested a long term allocation of funding for xylophones for the Music Program at Fleming. There was discussion about how to allocate money for that request based on the high cost of each xylophone, between \$1,000 to \$3,000 and the PTO budget process. The request was noted and the discussion was tabled for the future. It was also noted that the Music Program benefited all students at Fleming.

Report of the Treasurer: Toni presented the Treasurer's Report and the ending balance was \$7,451.20.

News and Events:

Book Fair: Great success! Thanks to Charlee Day for organizing and to all the volunteers who helped. Total sales were \$1787.76. We took \$200.00 in cash and \$493.88 in book credits. \$170.00 worth of books went directly to teachers and the Learning Center and over 30 books were donated by families to classroom teachers. \$220.15 was raised for the Principal's Discretionary Fund through the sale of the 20 copies of Botany on Mars, written and donated by Connie Beliveau. Thank you very much Connie!

Family Game/Movie Night: was a success. Families enjoyed playing games together in the cafeteria and watching the movie Underdog in the gym. Thanks to the student council, Karyn Roberts and Toni Finnegan for their help with this event.

Fleming Family Skate, March 22 from 2:15 – 4:15. This is a free event! Skates are available. Takes place at the Essex Skating Facility near the high school. Thanks to Carol Hutcheon for organizing this event.

Family Math night, March 25, 6 – 7:30: Fleming, Summit and Hiawatha will join in a bake sale. Proceeds will go to Skate the J. **Helpers at the sale and baked goods are needed!**

Spaghetti Dinner, March 29 from 5-7: Deb Carlin(872-8882) is heading this up. Please contact her if you are able to help. **Helpers at the sale and baked goods are needed!** Proceeds will go to Odyssey of the Mind.

DAN RYAN MOVED AND SARAH ZOBEL SECONDED A MOTION THAT ANY PROFITS FROM THE SPAGHETTI DINNER BE DESIGNATED TO FLEMING'S MUSIC PROGRAM. ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

T-Shirt Sales: Orders are due Friday, March 21st. Thank you to Jeanne Grant for organizing the sale.

Flower Power Spring Bulb Sale: packets will be going home Friday March 21st. The sale runs from 3/21 – 4/4. If you have any questions, call Sharon Sturm at 872-9125.

Book swap: will take place 4/17. A request for age appropriate books has been made to ADL. Karyn Roberts is organizing this event.

Fine Arts Committee: looking into having Circus Smirkus, out of Greensboro, Vermont, come for a residency next year. We are still gathering information. Sarah Zobel agreed to join the Fine Arts Committee as a fourth grade parent to work on the residency for next year. Thank you Sarah! **Fourth grade parents and incoming fourth grade parents are encouraged to get involved to help make the residency experience for the kids a great success! If you would like to be involved in this, please contact Mr. Ryan.**

Outdoor Club: Sharon circulated a survey from Peter Earle regarding an Outdoor Club to be presented to Fleming students. Members agreed to be the sponsor for the Outdoor Club.

Price Chopper Tools for Schools: We have received a Voit Kickball set and a hardwood geometric solids set of 12 from the points earned. Thanks to everyone who participated!

Box Tops for Education: please continue to clip and save Box Tops for Education and Campbell soup labels. The turn in date is the end of March!

Invitation to incoming 4th grade parents: Deb would invite Summit parents and Sharon would invite Hiawatha parents.

PTO officers needed for next year: Fourth grade parents and incoming fourth grade parents are needed to fill PTO officer positions for next year. Please consider sharing your skills next year with your child's school. Thank you!!

The May PTO meeting was changed to May 7th.

Next PTO meeting: April 16th 6:30 in the Learning Center