

**CARDINAL FOREST
PTA MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH, 2007**

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 9:17 am in the staff lounge.

Approval of minutes from November 28th, PTA meeting.

Karen Kenna noted that she was unable to compose a newsletter article about the school lunch as was mentioned in the November minutes. She told us that since the last meeting, some children have refused the cheese sandwiches that were offered to them. Each time she has told these children to call their parents to let them know that they won't eat the cheese sandwich that is offered. This should put the onus on both the child and the parent. Karen Capets motioned to approve the minutes and Joanna McMahon seconded.

Teacher's Liaison Report

Jill Chastain skipped to the teacher's report because Katy Bohn had to leave early. Katy told everyone about what the P.O.P (Positive Outcome) Committee was doing to combat the rising behavior problems in the cafeteria. The hopeful solution is to reward every class with a popsicle when they earn 60 good behavior points. She's hoping that the Clean Sweep Award which rewards for good behavior than the punishing for bad behavior, will alleviate some of the problems the cafeteria has been experiencing. Mrs. Bohn requested popsicle donations from parents. If you would like to donate please bring them to Katy Bohn's room. She also asked for more parent volunteers in the cafeteria between 12:00 noon and 1:30pm. It was agreed that part of the problem is that Patty Smith, the lady who helps out in the cafeteria every day, is extremely taxed and desperately needs help. Amy Miller's comments about her son's fears in the cafeteria triggered a lengthy discussion about this problem. Some other problems that came out of the discussion was the confusion about what children are supposed to get in the lunch line and the anxiety the young ones experience when they can't remember their number

Jill Chastain asked if all the teachers are up-to-date and knowledgeable about the upcoming Funfair. Karen Kenna said she would further update teachers at the Jan. 7th staff meeting. Jill restated the details for the upcoming Funfair and Silent Auction. All the classroom baskets will be bid on during the silent auction. Any additional items will be raffled off. Parents are asked to participate by donating one item to the themed basket. Parents are asked to tell their children to deliver the item to the box that is provided for them in each of the classrooms. Jill asked if Katy could solicit teachers to volunteer to help on the day of the Funfair. She said if you make it a contest you would be sure to have a large teacher participation.

Treasurer's Report Karen Capets asked to review the report. She noted that the Holiday Bazaar earnings was listed at the bottom of the Activity Report page. The Holiday Bazaar made \$575.00 and will be reflected on next month's report. It was agreed that this is a worthwhile event. Karen asked what line item she should use for the Holiday Bazaar deposit since the event did not have it's own line item. It was decided that the amount could be listed under the "Other" line item with a note indicating from where the money came. Mrs. Capets reminded everyone that a line item can not be added until it is approved by the PTA.

Karen Kenna asked if the money was ready to go for classes to get reimbursed for class trip expenses. Karen Capets indicated that the money was available. In fact there is \$3,000.00 earmarked for these expenses and all the teachers have to do is fill out an expense reimbursement

form. Jen Whitesel asked why chartered buses were going to be used for the fifth grade field trip that is a local trip. Karen said that if the class wants to stay until the end of the school day you have to use something other than school buses because those buses have to be available for the end-of-day regular bus routes. The only reason the Hemlock trip used school buses was because the class did not need the buses for the return trip until after their end-of-day run.

Karen Kenna also asked Karen Capets for clarification as to what teachers receive the allotted \$150.00 from the Class Enrichment line item. It was agreed that \$150 into \$4,200 works out to 28 teachers but we weren't sure who they are. Also, how much do specialists get since they are not part of the 28 teachers. Karen said she would research it and get back to Mrs. Kenna.

Principal's Report Vice Principal, Rebecca Costello praised the PTA and thanked them for the smart board donations. She had just seen a fifth grade PowerPoint presentation and was very impressed.

Karen Kenna gave us an LCD update and proudly acknowledged that the panel is now mounted and even though the panel has to be hooked up to the server we are one step closer to having the LCD up and running. Karen is hopeful for the New Year.

She reminded everyone about the January 16th Curriculum Expo. Jill Chastain clarified that this event is going to be billed as an Expo rather than a Carnival to avoid confusion with the Funfair.

Jen Whitesel asked if there was going to be a Drama or Chess or Odyssey of the Mind Club this year. She said that because all of our specialists are new this year, she does not want to force teachers to split their time between both classroom and club and risk sacrificing the classroom experience. She said that she is more than willing to open the school up to any parent who would like to take on any of the clubs.

Committee Reports:

Newsletter Distributor Annissa expressed a concern about the shortage of extra newsletters that are available each month. Karen Capets said she would check the bill to see how many are being ordered each month. Karen Kenna stated that we should have at least enough to cover the 603 students in our school plus all of the teachers and staff.

A+, Escrip, Boxtops and Campbells Chuck Smith said we have 91 people signed up for A+ Bonus which we have so far collected \$601. Chuck said to expect to see Box Top Signage after the New Year, to further promote this quarter's contest, that ends in February.

President Report Because Jill Chastain was standing in for Ann Lipton who was out of town, there was no President report.

Joanna motioned to end the meeting and Jen Whitesel seconded.
The meeting was adjourned at 10:56am.

The next PTA meeting will be Wednesday, January 16th during the Curriculum Expo. It will begin at 7:00pm.