

Minutes for the Groveton PTA General Membership Meeting

Date: Oct. 6, 2009

Location: Groveton Elementary School Cafeteria

Call to Order

Ms. Jessica Parker, PTA President, called the meeting to order at 6:50pm.

Announcement:

1. Coming up on October 15th, Groveton will be having a Dominos Pizza Night in which 20% of Dominos sales, from 2 local locations, will be given to Groveton. A special form (sent home with students) needs to be turned into the driver or the Dominos location for Groveton to receive 20%.

2. The 15th is also an early release day for students – 12:45.

Approval of 2009 Budget

Discussion:

There were not many budget changes from the last meeting. (See Budget)

Teacher Requests: Most of the teacher requests were items that were already in the budget such as field trips. Other requests included: \$350 Puppet Theater, washable color inkpads, magnet strips, paper, The Philosophy Club would like t-shirts for all the students. There was also a request for blank books for a student book project.

Questions

Will be a chess club this year? Not sure at the moment.

\$1000 for Yoga? is to train 4 new teachers

Vote:

A motion was made to approve the budget.

Budget was approved.

Nominations for Vacant PTA Executive Committee Positions

Vice President:

Pam and Walter Hamrin have recently moved here from Tennessee. They have a Kindergartener and a freshman in high school. They would like to share the position of Groveton PTA Vice President. They are currently organizing The Taste of Groveton.

A motion was made to nominate The Hamrin's as Co-Vice Presidents of the Groveton PTA.

The nomination was accepted.

Corresponding Secretary – The PTA still need someone to pick up mail and help with Tuesday folders.

There are also still a few committee chairs available. Information is posted on the Groveton website through the PTA link.

Presentation of Amendment to the Bylaws

See Bylaws Handout

The PTA would like to amend the bylaws and go from 8 required general PTA meetings to 4 general meetings.

Upcoming Events

A Taste of Groveton

Pam and Walter Hamrin are chairing this event.

Flyers have gone out. There will be "new" entertainment this year. It will be Friday, October 23 from 6:30-8:30. All help is welcome.

Turkey BINGO

The next big event was Turkey BINGO, Friday, November 20th.

Lisette Basset is chairing this event.

Volunteers are needed to help with baked goods, popcorn, food, and possibly the cotton candy machine.

There is a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast November 2. Frank Griner will be the chef for this event.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

Reading and Math Companions

Ellen Giblin is chairing this committee.

Flyers went home about this program. It has been expanded to include math this year.

If any person knows any one who would be interested, it is during school hours about ½ hour to an hour a week. The senior center and some churches have been contacted.

Copy Committee Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help copy monthly PTA mailings, most likely will be needed the last and second to last Monday of every month to help copy PTA materials and put them in the teachers mail boxes.

Yoga

Parents of yoga students, please sign up to bring snacks for one week during Yoga.

Hospitality Committee

Looking for a chairperson

Assists with student activities, Staff Appreciation...

Other Business

- Lavender fundraiser is ending Thursday, October 8th. Please send orders to front office.
- Groveton will take straight contributions to the school.
- No Chuck E. Cheese this year due to renovations.

- **Other Business Continued...**
- Will try to do other fundraisers from other area restaurants Noodles and Co. also has a program like Dominos.
- Need Breakfast (8:15-8:40) and Lunch Room (11:00-1:00) volunteers.
- Trying to start a Room Parent Program with 1 parent as a contact for each classroom: phone tree, help get word out...

Approval of Last Months Minutes

A motion was made.
September minutes were approved.

Acceptance of Treasurer Report

A motion was made.
Treasurer Report was approved.

Principal Announcements: Mr. Pollio

- Chalk for Peace was last Friday (October 2nd), it was a big success. It began last year with Ms. Mariano one of our former art teachers.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences are November 3rd and November 4th. Teachers are encouraged to meet with 100% of their student's parents.

Questions/Topics were asked:

Will we be losing our EXCEL school status next year?

This was brought up last year as a strong possibility in the 2010-2011 budget tight times, but it is not official.

What is an EXCEL school?

There are about 20 schools that are EXCEL in FCPS. Teachers receive 7% more pay and work an 8 hour contract each day, with a full day on Monday. As opposed to a 7 ½ hour work day with an early release Monday as seen in all other FCPS elementary schools.

How do we change it?

Attend School Board Meetings, next one is October 27th at Luther Jackson Middle School.

Ms. Parker spoke out at last meeting against proposed cuts for school personnel positions like SBTS, librarians, Instructional Assistants...

PTA would like to put together a statement that they are opposed to cutting the EXCEL program.

Meeting Adjourned 7:50pm

Teachers present:

Ms. Vinisky – Librarian (Recording Sec.)

Respectfully submitted by Susan Vinisky, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved: _____