

Norrisville Elementary School
PTA Meeting
Tuesday, January 12, 2010
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

ATTENDANCE:

Julie Marindin, Mike Hood, Melissa Dick, Scott Grove, Erin Traub, Mr. Wallace, Cathy Gay, Sandy Cook, and Laura Walker.

There was no unfinished business from the previous PTA Meeting.

Erin Traub, our Media Specialist, began the meeting with proposing a Birthday Book Club for Norrisville. The money would go toward purchasing new books for our library. Parents would pay \$10 per child per book and their child's name would go into the book purchased so they would be able to look up their name and find the book they purchased. Her initial plan is to send out permission slips at the end of the school year to get started with over the summer to have the books ready for the beginning of the next school year. Students would have the opportunity to check out their book for an additional 2 weeks and also have their birthday announced during morning announcements.

Julie Marindin will be heading up Teaching 3rd Graders to Knit Program. She will be teaching Mrs. Stahl's class the craft of knitting to make squares to make blankets to be given to soldiers.

Mr. Wallace informed us that the CAC Meeting for the evening was canceled. On February 9th, Joe Lacotta, will be joining the meeting to discuss issues such as Parks & Rec, Joint Activities, Redistricting, and any other topics we would like addressed.

February 12th will be the Hop-A-Thon run by Missie Berrell. The funds raised by this event will go toward technology for our school. A flyer should be coming home with students the 1st week of February.

Another small discussion was had regarding outdoor recess. Mr. Wallace expressed that due to the temperature and winds in our area, he feels that it has been too cold to let the children go outside to play during recess. He noted that during the warmer months, the children get out more frequently to make up for the months the weather did not permit outdoor play.

Melissa Dick gave the Treasurers Report. She noted that during the month of November, volunteers in the school have logged in 142 hours of time and during the month of December, they logged in 181 hours of time. These numbers do not reflect the many hours many people volunteer in their homes for our school. She gave an update on the Chick-Fil-A family night that brought in \$196.85 from the proceeds of purchasing dinner there. She updated us on the Apparel sale with sales totaling \$1,992.50 thanks to Diane Murk's hard work. She gave an update on the gift card purchasing run by Patty Preston through UnitedScrip. We made a profit of \$430 and sales totaling \$5,529.00 And finally, she gave a report on our first Movie Night of the school year showing the movie "Up" that made a profit of \$318. Many thanks go out to Patty Preston and Rebecca Rommelman for their efforts during this well received fundraiser. There were 135 attendees at this event.

Melissa also wanted to make a special acknowledgement of Joe Aiken's dedication to volunteering for the Ravens Breakfast and also donating items for the trivia games Dawn Arnold hosts during the breakfast. A special thank you will be noted in this month's newsletter.

Melissa also brought up the issue of having a PR person for our school. She wanted to know who we could go to if we felt there was news worthy of reporting regarding our school to the local newspapers or even local television news broadcasts. Mr. Wallace had acknowledged that he was one of the individuals and Julie had mentioned that Mary Jane Dykes had been but wasn't sure if she still was. Melissa expressed a concern that events we have had at our school have gone unrecognized and that having some of the events at our school such as the Ravens Breakfast, Reflections participation, Patriot Program participation, etc., mentioned in local media would give our students a sense of pride in our school as well as a sense of accomplishment being recognized by our community.

Julie mentioned that our Extra Recess Outdoor Play time on Tuesdays needs volunteers. We are looking for 3-4 volunteers every Tuesday to help with outdoor recess after lunch from 11:45 until 1:30. If anyone is willing to help, please contact Julie.

April 20th will be the Social Studies Fair in lieu of the Science Fair this year. More information to follow at a later date.

Julie proceeded to give Committee Reports:

Cultural Arts – Lynda Boegner is attempting to get sponsorship from various businesses to help support a week long event at our school called “Ag Lab”, which is a mobile science lab that comes to your school to promote science. She will use the remaining portion of the funds for Cultural Arts along with \$75 being given by the school and, hopefully, the Green School Committee will match that \$75 to go toward the cost of the event. No date has been set for this event as Lynda is waiting for funding for this program.

Heritage Hills – Cathy Gay is heading up this family fun day event scheduled for February 21st. The details are still being worked out but she is hoping that to be scheduled for snow tubing from 11:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. with a cost ranging from \$20 - \$24. The facility has a play area and café where you need not take off your snow gear. More information is to follow shortly.

Gardeners Grove – Sandy Cook has taken on this job of revamping our court yard and front of the school garden. Her objective is to tear out everything that has died off and start fresh. She would like to get the Green School Committee involved with finding plants that will thrive in this area. She has also approached the Ag Teachers in the High Schools to get their students to participate with this project with the planning and design of the layout of the plants/flowers/trees. She is looking to have a Yard Sale/Consignment type of fund raiser for this project. We would ask individuals who are interested in having a table to donate ½ of their proceeds to this project. This would take place in the spring. More information needs to be obtained regarding where to have the sale set up.

Math-A-Thon – Scheduled for May 3rd – 14th to benefit St. Jude's. A 7 minute video feature i-Carly promoting math will be viewed before hand by Mr. Wallace and if deemed appropriated, viewed at the Good News Assembly on April 8th by the students to prepare for the Math-A-Thon. Permission slips will then go out to students and then the distribution of booklets will go home along with donation forms.

Word-A-Thon – Scheduled for April 19th through 30th. Students will bring home their spelling words for those 2 weeks and parents, family members, neighbors, etc. can sponsor your child per word at 25¢, 50¢, 75¢ or \$1 per correctly spelled word. All proceeds go directly to our PTA Funds.

Walk-A-Thon – Scheduled for May 14th that will take place during the school day where the children will walk a designated trail and family members and siblings will have the opportunity to walk simultaneously at another trail. Missie Berrell is heading up this event and will have more information to follow.

Speech Festival – Diane Van Pelt is heading up this event again this year and is looking to have this program during the month of May. No date has been set at this time.

Patriot Assembly – Scheduled for April 28th with Sandy Cook chairing this committee. There will be a breakfast for the 5th Graders and their families at 8:30 that morning with the assembly to follow at 9:00 a.m.

Spirit Week – This event has been scheduled for the 1st week of February. Laura Walker is heading up this committee and more details will follow as to the theme for each day.

New Business of the evening was pertaining to Nurse Judy Deacon requesting the purchase of a child's monitor and blood pressure cuff along with an AC adaptor. Mr. Wallace has taken it upon himself to find the funds for these items.

Kimberly Tulp is in her final term of her PTA Secretary duties. We are looking for someone to take on her role as Secretary for the next term, which is for 2 years. Please notify Julie if you want to take on this responsibility or know of someone who may be interested.

Meeting Adjourned
8:37 p.m.
Melissa Dick