

Bear Creek School
PTO Minutes for January 2012

The PTO officers for the 2011-2012 school year are as follows:

Tiffany Brandt-Thomas and Erin Hiles, Co-Presidents; Shannon Kreider and Tara McCorkle, Co-Vice Presidents; Eileen Wood, Secretary; and Melissa Reiman and Sue Smith, Co-Treasurers

Meeting Minutes for the January 5, 2012 meeting

I. Attendance: Victoria Abdelnaby, Debbie Alleman, Lori Bitner, Todd Davis, Marianne Denlinger, Erin Hiles, April Hollinger, Shannon Kreider, Erica Kreiser, Corrie Kruft, Kelly Laird, Al Perry, Melissa Reiman, Sue Smith, Dr. Annette Spagnolo, Michelle Stackhouse, Kelly Wieand, Margaret Williams and Eileen Wood

II. Officers' Reports:

Co-Presidents: No report.

Co-Vice Presidents: No report

Treasurers: Co-Treasurer Melissa Reiman reported that our current balance is \$30,519.00. Recently we received \$3,849.00 for the Spirit Wear sale, \$200.00 from our nights at P & J Pizza and \$231.00 for our Box Tops. We currently stand at \$4,292.00 for the Giant A+ program.

Secretary: Kelly Laird made a motion to accept the minutes which had an addition of updates concerning the playground discussion. The motion was seconded.

III. Principal's Comments: Dr. Spagnolo reported that the teachers will report to school on Monday, January 16, 2012 for a Professional Development day. Students do not have school on this date. There will be another Professional Development day on January 27, 2012. This is a half-semester break for students.

She also gave a "big thank" you to Kelly Wieand, chairperson of the Community Service Committee for that committee's great efforts in providing a donation program where needy Bear Creek families could receive Christmas presents and food.

Dr. Spagnolo provided details for the changes to the Bear Period that will go into effect on January 30, 2012. The Bear Periods for 5th and 6th grades will be extended by 10 minutes. The first four days of the six-day cycle will be work days, a day will be for catch-up, and a day will be a fun day where students can select an activity. The 4th grade Bear Period will remain the same time-wise.

IV. Teacher's Comments: The teachers thanked the volunteers who donated cookies for the cookie exchange. It was great that the staff was included in the exchange. Some of the extra cookies were frozen so that they could be enjoyed after the holiday break.

V. Committee Reports:

Fund Raising

Spirit Wear: \$3,849.00 was the total profit from the Spirit Wear sale. A few shirts remain for sale. Please contact Erica Kreiser if you are interested in buying a shirt.

Giant A-Plus: We currently have a running total of \$4,292.80. We could bring in as much as \$9,000.00 by year end.

Box Tops, Campbell's Labels, and Moo Money: We have received \$231.00 in Box Top revenues to date. The Campbell labels will be counted by Tara McCorkle. There are not enough yet to submit.

Book Fair: Tara McCorkle will be taking care of the pizza party for the winning class.

Other Fund Raising: Future restaurant nights will be held at Little Italy in Bainbridge and Rita's in April.

School Store: No report.

Assembly Committee: There will be an assembly after the PSSA testing is done.

Parents in Education (P.I.E.): Eileen Wood reported that projects have slowly been trickling in. So far

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the committees has done mainly photocopying but has done a few other projects as well.

Team Parents: No report.

Community Service: Kelly Laird reported that this committee was able to get presents for needy Bear Creek families through a Giving Tree program and by conducting a food drive. \$846.00 was received in donations for these programs. The Northwest Regional Police Department generously donated \$300.00. A \$500.00 donation was received from a local business. There were 80 children who received gifts and 55 families that received boxes of food and vouchers for turkeys and a \$6.00 voucher towards a night of bowling at Clearview Lanes. Bear Creek PTO will only be charged for these items if a voucher is presented. Kelly thanked all who donated money or items. She also expressed her appreciation for the great organizational help from the student counselors.

Family Programs: There will be bowling days at Clearview Lanes on January 14th and January 15th. The cost per Bear Creek student is \$2.00. The cost for siblings and other family members is \$5.00 per person. The PTO is paying \$2.00 for each Bear Creek student that bowls. There was a flyer that went out right before the holiday break. Please send the form in with your 1st two choices of dates and times. Also list up to five people that your child wants to bowl with. Forms are due by January 10th. Miss Shenk will post the form on the PTO Manager link on the District website.

There will be rolling skating nights in the near future.

The committee is looking for more suggestions for additional activities. A night at the school gymnasium with a dance and other activities was a suggestion that was discussed.

Yearbook: Student picture sheets were sent out to the teachers. If you have pictures from a school or PTO event, please contact Sheri Block.

VI. Continuing Business: Mrs. Julie Ditzler, IMC teacher, still needs volunteers to help in the library. She needs help mainly on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. The times where she needs the most help are from 8:45 AM - 10:30 AM and 10:30 AM - 12:15 PM. Volunteers will help with checking books in and out of the library. The volunteer will also help file the books back onto the book shelves. If you are able to volunteer, you can email Mrs. Ditzler at Julie_Ditzler@etownschools.org or you can stop in and sign up on her calendar.

VII. New Business: Lori Bitner presented information concerning a Santa Workshop program that she would like to implement at the school for the next school year. It would be modeled after one that she ran at Fairview (in 2010) and at Rheems (this past December). The Workshop does not use company-supplied merchandise, rather she and a team of shoppers purchase a large variety of quality items from stores such as Kohl's, J.C. Penney, and Aeropostale. They shop throughout the year looking for shopping bargains. They have also had items donated in past such as Von Heusen ties and cosmetic bags. The prices of the merchandise ranges from \$1.00 up to approximately \$7.00. The price charged is the same price that they purchase it for plus sales tax. The prices are either rounded up or down to the nearest dollar. When this program was run at Fairview it was held during the school day. When it was held at Rheems, it was run in the evening. They set up sample tables at Parent Teacher conferences. They begin to promote the event in October. Melissa Reiman made a motion that Bear Creek PTO support a Santa Workshop to some degree. Amy McEvoy seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Dr. Spagnolo addressed a question concerning the school's early dismissal policy in the event of snow. She stated that the walking path may not be cleared depending on the amount of snow.

Michelle Stackhouse presented information about a program that will be offered to girls at Bear Creek beginning in March. There will be two teams offered: a 4th and 5th grade program "Girls on the Run" and a program for 6th grade girls called "Girls on Track". Each team will meet for a period of ten weeks. The registration fee per student is \$150.00. A scholarship program is available for anyone who needs financial assistance. Registration will begin February 1st at 6:00 AM. There is a limit of 15 girls per team. The program will begin in March and culminate with a 5K run at Franklin & Marshall College on

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May 19, 2012. Please see the flyer that will be sent out in mid January for additional details.

VIII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Next PTO Meeting is February 2, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at Bear Creek School Information Technology Center.

Respectfully Submitted,
Eileen D. Wood, secretary