

PTO Meeting Minutes November 13, 2008

Present: Tracy Hilton, Cindy Hanlon, 2nd grade teachers, Susan Hughes, Mona Goldthwaite, Heidi Borenstein, Alanna McKee, Denise Wall, Irene Pien, Michelle O'Connor, acting as President for Karen Marotta, Robin Walsh, Selma Svendsen, Laurie Brosnan.

1) Introductions:

2) Principal Francine Goldstein gave 2 reports:

A. Building update. Monday, November 10th there was a public forum that was an informational meeting to get a sense of the Bancroft Community where we are coming from with the possibilities of Bancroft in the future. Francine stressed that we are in the very beginning stages of a very lengthy process. Christa DiNapoli has agreed to be a point person for the Bancroft PTO re: building updates. Anyone else who is interested in sharing this with Christa please let Karen Marotta know.

B. Technology Meeting: Report on a meeting with various organizations that might fund school projects ex. ACE, Rotary etc. The meeting was held at West El.. At this meeting there was a demonstration of Smart Boards by the teachers from West El.. They explained the many uses of the Smart Board. Nancy Snow has a Smart Board that she won and would like to put it to use, but needs an LCD projector in order for her to get it up and running. The PTO will look into this. The possibility of bringing more Smart Boards to Bancroft in the future was also discussed.

Website Update: Annie Gilbert was not present, but sent this report:

Annie has been tracking user stats on the website. It is steadily building with traffic peaking after Tuesday when the list serve goes out with updated information. The 1st week there were 150-200 visits and over 300 visits last week. The Home page, School News and Community Events seem to be viewed the most. Annie has received lots of positive feedback re: the website.

Idle – Free Zone: Alanna McKee said this campaign has been a big success and has received lots of positive feedback. The amount of cars being turned off while waiting in parent pick-up has been reduced dramatically! The next project is: working on the buses exhaust systems being retrofitted with a device that would decrease the amount of fumes going back into the buses and out of the buses as well. The state has a grant that would pay for this. Alanna also asked for funding for an environmental assembly that would be entertaining as well as meaningful. It was approved and seconded that the PTO give \$700.00 to the Environmental Liaison. A line item in the budget will be created for this.

Fundraising:

Autumn “Fun-Raiser”: Irene reported that the “Fun-Raiser” was a great success. The auction items netted \$23,000. Irene thanked the Bancroft Community for all their efforts. The class baskets were very creative and fun and Irene thanked the teachers who contributed to auction items as well. A fun evening was had by all!

Fundraising, Bridget Fletcher/ Jodi Reming: Bridget and Jodi are working on better communication between the PTO fundraising and the Bancroft Community. They are working on a messaging piece for the website as to what the money raised through fundraising is being used for. Box Tops: So far \$610.00 has been collected in Box Tops which is well ahead of the goal being \$1,000.00 for the school year. They are going to have an initiative for what class can contribute the most box tops. This is an easy way to make money for the school!

Math Bug Dates: January 23-February 6th.

Treasure Chest/Membership Drive: Robin Walsh reported that \$4,400.00 was collected for the Membership Drive and an additional \$2,500.00 went into the Treasure Chest fund. Overall, 38% of the Bancroft community participated in the drive. This is a little below the average amount of participation we have had over the last 5 years. The classroom with the most participation for the 2nd year in a row is Mrs. O'Connor's class. Way to go!! A pizza party will be given to Mrs. O'Connor's class courtesy of the PTO.

Teacher Holiday Luncheon: Kim Racca will be looking for volunteers to bring in food for the teacher luncheon.

Treasurer's Report: Denise Wall gave the Treasurer's Report for the month of November.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Brosnan, Recording Secretary