

Avoca PTC Meeting at Avoca West ITC

Minutes for 01.04.12 at 7pm

Attendance: Denise Kamberis-Kingwill, Lourdes Cornelius, Judy Trunsky, Bob Brodell, Silvia Strazzarino Shaw, Stephen Starr, Peter Ogden, Joel Raynes, Mary Patel, Karen Savin, Louise Dechovitz, and Jye Rin Cho.

Approval of minutes from the last meeting. Motion made to approve

President's Report (Denise Kingwill)

The District has a new secretary to the Superintendent Dr. Jauch, her name is Kimberly Meier. She will be introduced in this Friday's email blast.

The Board of Education for District 37 is going to hire previous superintendent Dr. Joe Porto, to lead off the strategic plan.

The Parent's and Teacher's Committee is meeting tomorrow January 5th for Dr. Reed's & Cindy Devin's replacements. The committee is down to 2-3 final candidates for Marie Murphy Principal. As for the Pupil Services position, they are down to 2 candidates.

Secretary's Report (Mary Patel)

The PTC received thank you cards from:

The Pupil Services Team, thanking us for \$100, which they have chosen to spend on magazine subscriptions and iPod accessories.

The 4th Grade Team, thanking us for the generous team gift of money. They intend to use them on new industrial strength pencil sharpeners for their classrooms. For them this is a luxury. The 4th Grade Team also thanks us for the delicious dinner on Conference Night. "Having dinner provided for us makes a long day a little easier. We genuinely appreciate all these treats from the PTC".

Mrs. Rosic, one of our lovely kindergarten teachers, sent us a thank you card. "I would like to thank you so much for the lovely dinner you supplied for us during parent-teacher's conferences. The food was delicious and your kindness was greatly appreciated". She would also like to thank us for the money given to the teachers so that they can buy something special for their classrooms.

The 3rd Grade Team, thanking us "Thank you for the great dinner during our conferences. It was the perfect thing to keep us going!"

Treasurer's Report (Silvia Strazzarino)

- a) Financial Update (Actual 2011-2012, December closing) \$14,700. We still have income coming in from Book Fair & expenses that are coming up for conferences.

Old Business & Reports

a) PTC Website – (Denise Kingwill)

Heather & Denise have been doing this on their own. A couple of people are interested. The PTC needs to discuss cost & make a budget. We have yet to hear from the person that does the district website. The PTC would like for it to be realized by the end of the year or as soon as possible.

b) F.A.N. Programs Update – (Karen Savin)

- January 12, 7:00 PM, New Trier HS/ Winnetka – "*Louder Than a Bomb*" film screening, sponsored by FAN, the NTPA and the Wilmette Theatre. This award-winning documentary about four Chicago-area high school poetry slam teams

is brilliant, and the two directors, both locals (Greg Jacobs and Jon Siskel) will attend, along with 2 of the slam poets featured in the movie, and the co-founder of the slam competition. A great night out for the whole family, suitable for grades 6 and up. As of this moment there are 1,297 seat reservations; better sign up now, Gaffney only holds 1,567.

- January 18th, 7:00 PM, North Shore Country Day School, Winnetka:
Al Ross, LCSW and David Schreiber, MD will run a dynamic community discussion on “Wholehearted Parenting: A Conversation About Perfectionism, Power and Unconditional Love.” Dr. Brene Brown’s TED Talk will be screened first to set the tone. These two charismatic local mental health professionals will help parents sort through the cultural chaff in search of the noetic grain. Sponsored by NSCD’s Parent Education Committee.

c) Enrichment Assembly Update – (Karen Savin)

We are having *Branswallow*, Linda Breuer works with birds that are inflicted by pollution or injured by some type of human interaction. She runs a rehabilitation and public education center in Wauconda, Illinois.

Barnswallow will be at: MM on March 16th, with 3 programs, 40 minutes each, 1-3pm in the community room. AW on February 27th, with 2 programs, 30 minutes each (shorter time recommended for younger audiences), 1-2pm in the gym.

Comedy Sportz will be on April 23rd for both schools, 45 minutes each. AW at 10am and at MM at 1pm. All school, in the gym.

There is a surplus of \$2,900 for the year. This surplus goes into the school gift.

d) Funding Factory Update – (Christina Aron-Sycz)

The result of sorting through all of the electronics that were donated (including 1 camera and 1 mp3 player), and opening them all to identify their model # and compare it to the list of accepted items, we have 12 items that qualify. The downside is that there is a minimum of 20 items per paid shipment, and based on my memory of what was in the box in the lobby, Christina didn’t think we would meet that total. There were a handful of printer cartridges in there, but again, many do not qualify. There were 40 phones to sort, and only 12 made the cut. So, we will have to be a bit more patient and the PTC will pursue the collection boxes at business locations starting after the first of the year. The PTC will continue with this and see where we are at by the end of the school year. If you have a cell phone to recycle - please send it in, there is a drop box in the school lobby. Please help turn that unused phone into cash for our schools.

- e) Book Fair (Cathy Brown) –** The sales (including One for Books): was \$13,175.08, Our profit: cash \$3,051.99 in books \$447.37. Book Fair had a total of 35 volunteers & all slots were filled with a minimum of 2 volunteers each slot. The amount of volunteers worked well. The only improvements needed for next year would be, more communication regarding the fair dates/times and more advertising of the online fair (only two orders were placed online this time). Overall, the book fair did really well and Cathy Brown would be interested in chairing again next year.

- f) eScript –** the District has signed up we are awaiting a chairperson. If you are interested in this position, please contact Denise Kingwill or Heather Hester.

- g) Student Funding –** There are a couple people interested. This Friday will have an email blast to announce the committee meeting next week. (This program is needed to raise money for families that have no access to PTC Programs/Events.)

- h) Fun Fair –** Savage was too high. One sounds promising The Fun Ones in Carol Stream has sent us a proposal. The PTC wants to keep the cost below \$3,500 & she is willing to work with us. If you know a parent that has a great idea of a new thing to do for Fun Fair please contact the PTC. Jen Stefan has agreed to run the teacher raffle. The

PTC is willing to donate towards a big ticket item for the raffle. We will have a sign-up sheet for Marie Murphy volunteers to run Fun Fair. Lourdes & Denise are coordinating volunteers. Fun Fair is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 26th from 12 to 3pm.

- i) **Parent's Night Update (Lourdes Cornelius & Mary Patel)** – Save the Dates will go out next week in the youngest child's backpack, one per family. The venue is booked at the Wilmette Golf Course again this year. Parent's Night is scheduled for Saturday, April 21st from 7pm to midnight.

New business

- a) **Grocery Dollars** – Needed a Chairperson. The PTC may partner up with Ramona & Harper Elementary Schools to aggregate it up to get a larger percentage return. You net 2.5%. Tina Baer from Ramona Elementary is the contact & would be willing to set it up for us. During our meeting, Bob Brodell has offered to Chair grocery dollars.
- b) **Girls Night** – Is scheduled for January 27th. Karen Quezada & Allison Aron are co-chairing this event as well as Boys Night. Since this meeting, the Girls night event has been canceled & will be rescheduled at a later date. More information to come.

Adjournment – Motion was made to adjourn, seconded & passed.