

Hillside PTO Minutes  
January 9, 2014

Attendees Per Sign-in Sheet

Lisa Walker  
Kristin Sharpe  
Sue Hannan  
Baron Richardson  
Stephanie Ferro  
Maureen Hamel  
Sherry Nannis  
Maureen and Mike Tessier  
Lisa Walsh  
Jim O'Connell  
Brendan McCafferty  
Tara Lindh

Minutes of 12/13 Review and Adopted

Treasurer's Report

(Reported by Lisa Walsh)

School District account - \$8285.82. We purchased mimeos and another printer.

PTO account - \$1932, loaned for deposit.

Operating account - \$1842.22.

We bought \$194 in magazines. All monies will be spent.

Jim O'Connor stated that it would be good to have an itemized list.

Fundraiser report

The committee will meet next week at 6:30 p.m. in the library for the big "kick-off."

We will be assigning different responsibilities and sponsors.

Ms. Lindh stated that the Builder's Club will donate clean-up again as an auction item.

Questions raised: Is it appropriate to have minimum bids? Are we doing a program? Should we include what we spent money on last year?

Maureen reports that there is a problem using Google Docs to manage fundraising documents. Lisa Walsh assents stating there are too many things going on under Steve Manero's name.

Report on Samsung Tech Award by Mrs. Hannon

Mrs. Hannon will be going before the School Board Monday night.

Mrs. Hannon gave a detailed explanation to the PTO of how she applied for the project. She explained the theme of the project was how science and technology

and math improve the local community. She came up with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade salmon project. Mrs. Hannon gave a detailed explanation of what steps would be needed to be performed to move to the next stages of the competition, including data collection, a 3-minute video, a public service announcement, music and artwork. So far, this competition has brought \$20k to Hillside, and Samsung products.

Jim thanked the teachers, Mrs. Hannon, Mr. Richardson and Ms. Lindh for their work and for attending the PTO meeting.

#### Other Issues Raised:

Jr. National Honor Society – Mr. McCafferty would like to pursue. It was brought up that other schools like McLaughlin has been doing for a few years.

21<sup>st</sup> Century Spanish Program – some issues with implementation and scheduling issues. Ms. Lindh suggests we may want to do a survey of kids of see who is interested.

#### Principal's Report

(Mr. McCafferty entered the meeting after contacting the police about a public safety matter pertaining to a man who revealed a gun to several girls near the school).

Mr. McCafferty spoke to the director of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century about the Spanish program and he stated the challenge is to find a teacher; and, he is also concerned about the sustainability of the academics and how it may conflict with other schedules.

There was a recommendation that a plan be in place for Feb. 1.  
Another recommendation was to advertise it in the newsletter.

Mr. McCafferty stated that the second quarter ends on the 24<sup>th</sup> and that report cards come out after.

Mr. McCafferty stated that so many good things are happening at the school, including: Pennies for Patients – kids bring money to help cancer patients, and all the things the Green Machine and Builder's Club are doing. He also mentioned that the staff members are doing all sorts of things.

Ms. Lindh discussed the social and movie night on January 31 that the Builder's Club is using as a recruitment event. More information will be included in the newsletter. Last year the Builder's club raised over \$4,000, which it awarded to 10 YMCA camp scholarships.

Mr. McCafferty discussed the school store and talked about the plan for Ms. Lindh to involve special education kids to help in running the school store and implementing life skills in the process. Sherry Nannis volunteered to be the parent to oversee the running of the school store.

There was a discussion of selling Hillside clothing and merchandise at the school store. Mr. McCafferty stated we should be mindful of coordinating with different fundraising activities, such as HAMS.

The issue of spring soccer was discussed. Hector Uray (sp?) of the Office of Youth Services and Mr. McCafferty started the program that includes indoor soccer. There is a possibility of doing an intermural with Parkside. This program will happen maybe in March of April. The use of the field next to the school is an issue. Mr. O'Connell stated that the field should be properly maintained and that we should discuss more at next meeting.

Mr. McCafferty discussed the new reading program, "reading plus," brought to us by the United Way. It is a pilot program that is web-based. Eligible students are those identified as low-to-middle ability readers. It covers 3 periods during Enrichment but we want to add 4 more. Through this program we obtained 20 computers but we need 10 more. The next computers we purchase will be used for this program. We want to be able to get 50 licenses so that kids can use from home. This program is getting great results.

Ms. Lindh discussed a research project she is doing for her graduate school program. She welcomes any ideas or suggestions about what she can do for a service-learning project, such as a volunteer community program that gets kids involved with the community. Mr. O'Connell stated that there are a lot of opportunities for service.

Meeting Adjourned.