

Phelps Luck Elementary School PTA

Executive Board Meeting

December 3, 2008

Call to Order: 7:08pm

Attendance – 16 people signed the attendance form. Guesstimate is 20+ total in attendance. Attendance sign-in form is on file.

President's Report – Maryann Cohea

- Spring PTA elections are coming. Under the PTA By-laws, every officer position is open for election every year. There is a 2 year limit an officer can serve in the same position. This year, only one of our officers, Liz Beachum, can return to her position as Secretary if reelected – all other five officers must step down from their current positions. A nominating committee needs to be in place by the beginning of April. Everyone is allowed to run.
- Maryann and Mrs. Leader are meeting to discuss how the PTA can pay for making paper copies for PTA business. However, there is no budget for it this year. Some suggestions were discussed including buying our own copier, making fewer copies by only distributing to youngest/only child in family and working towards going paperless.

Administrator's Report – Nancy Ottey

- November Turkey Trot was very successful according to Mr. Deppen. It was “The best Turkey Trot ever”. Many students displayed incredible sportsmanship.
- The Parent/Teacher Conference was well attended. Mrs. Ottey thanked all who helped welcome and direct parents at the PTA greeting table. Survey results will be shared at the next meeting.
- Several staff members have been nominated for awards.
 - Sylvia Wise – Howard County Custodian of the Year
 - Claudia Eckstrom – Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher of the Year
 - Krista Wheatley-Heckman – Maryland Teacher of the Year
 - Kendra Andrew – First Year Teacher of the Year
 - Michele Fontaine – Para Educator of the Year
- Important Upcoming Dates
 - Dec 18 – Winter Concert
 - Dec 19 – Last day of school before Winter Break
 - Jan 5 – Schools reopen.
 - Jan 19 – MLK Jr. Day, schools closed
 - Jan 23 – End of 2nd Qtr
 - Jan 26 – School closed for students
 - Feb 4 – Report cards are issued
- Lost and Found items are in the Cafeteria.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Pechacek

- Total income - \$7,082.22; Total expenses – \$2,572.72
- We can only spend the amount of money we have budgeted (\$20,071.00) even if we make more.
- Dine-out at Eggspectation deposit - \$350, Sally Foster - \$380 plus \$588 for internet sales. Staff appreciation donations were \$827. Credit for last year's Spring Carnival - \$1,418.

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Committee Reports

- 2008 Fall Book Fair (Cristen Jones).
 - The Book Fair brought in \$5,123.22 after taxes. Profit was \$1,537.27 (30%). This year brought in more than last year's Fall Book Fair (\$4,322.24 with a profit of \$1,296.68).
 - Winter Book Fair historically makes less. Last year, we made \$2,529.57 (\$750 profit).
 - \$168 worth of books will be donated/purchased for the media center.
- Holiday Gift Wrap (Cheryl vom Saal)
 - Gift wrap fundraiser to be held at Barnes and Noble on Sat, Dec. 13. Special story time and performances by PLES band and orchestra, plus games and crafts from 1:00-3:00 pm. PLES gets credit for each book bought for the entire day. Gift wrapping is for Barnes and Noble purchases only.
- Art Fundraiser (Malinda Haggerty)
 - Important Dates
 - Jan 12, 2009 – kickoff, email to Teachers and Staff, art is being created now
 - Jan 27 – send art to company
 - Feb 17 – order form will go home
 - Mar 2-6 – orders due
 - March 18 – orders are delivered
- Secret Shop (Karen DeBlasio)
 - Secret Shop will be on Dec 12 from 3:30-5:00. Will try to organize backpacks and coats by grade/class. Grades will be split between Cafeteria and Media Center.
- Science Fair (Lisa Strutz)
 - Need cans and volunteers. May offer 2 day “no homework pass” if children participate.

Howard County/PLES Anti-Bullying Policies and Procedures – Heather Graham

- Ms. Graham gave a PowerPoint presentation on bullying – how parents can determine if their child is being bullied and what to do about it. She also discussed some of the PLES initiatives in creating positive behaviors at school including Fabulous Falcon Awards, adult mentoring of students, Quarterly Awards, Peer Mediators (older students mentoring younger students), teaching respect of self, others and property.
- Ms. Graham distributing a handout of “Guidelines for Parents” and held a Q&A session. She recommended the books “Bully Proofing Your Child” and “Choosing Civility”. She also recommended googling “tracking teresa” for information about cyber-bullying.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:09pm