

PSO Meeting  
October 13, 2008  
Mary Woodward cafeteria, 9:00AM

**Board Members Present:** Pam Engel, Natasha Ryan, Sandra Jones, Catie Stedman, Kathy Belden

Pam welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The minutes from the September 2008 meeting were read and approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

Sandra Jones reported we are in plan with our budget and noted the following expenses:

So far Jog-a-thon is close to the budgeted amount. They are about \$4,000 below estimate, but still have money coming in, not all of the pledge envelopes have been collected.

The funds have been disbursed to help pay for 2 document cameras.

The sound system for the cafeteria has been ordered and is within the budgeted amount.

Funds have been disbursed to purchase Macmillan novels.

Sciencesaurus' and Math Books have been purchased.

**Volunteer Coordinator**

Catie Stedman is happy to report we have approximately 1658.7 volunteer hours logged in so far. This is a lot hours and shows the wonderful parent support we have.

The book fair is still in need of volunteers.

A letter was sent out to ask for volunteers for the spring fundraiser, we had six responses with one person offering to co-chair. This subject will be discussed later in the meeting.

**Committee Reports**

**Jog-A-Thon**

Robin McFall reported on the status of the Jog-a-thon. Despite the rain on the kinder and first graders (who did not seem to be affected) the jog-a-thon had a great turnout. 470 of the children had pledges and as of Thursday only 75 were still outstanding. In addition, to date there were 20 extra donations that were received that had not been pledged.

We expect to net approximately \$28,300, which differs a little bit from the budgeted amount due to corporate matches that have been received. We need to collect between \$32 -\$33k to match the budgeted amount after expenses.

**Bank Day**

Carol Feng announced bank day was up and running and went smoothly the first week.

**Book Fair**

The book fair is up and running. We still need a few more volunteers for Thursday and then for clean up on Friday. If you are available please contact Katarina Strba.

**Missoula Children's Theater**

Tracy Priaulx and Sandra Bates reported on the Missoula Children's theater progress. The theater is by audition this year and could still use about 20 more applicants.

### **Specialty Fundraiser**

Amy Brown reported on the status of the specialty fundraisers. The first restaurant night is next Tuesday at Pizzacato. She is talking with the Ceramic café for possibly doing a fundraiser in December, similar to restaurant night. Finally, there is a tentative date to have a fundraising night at Pasta Veloce in January.

### **Box Tops**

Pam Engel reported for Tami Ward, the Beaver/Duck contest is underway, the boxes are in the entryway. She also wanted to let people know they can sign up and shop at many stores through the Box Top website which will allow our school to get a kickback for many internet purchases.

### **Family Night**

The first family night is November 14<sup>th</sup> and will be a movie night.

### **Art Lit**

Pardis Mehrassa reported there are 80 new volunteers. There are 42 new faces, including 8 men. 19 of the volunteers are going to be working in more than one class. The first meeting on Eric Carle was successful. In November Mary Woodward will have the opportunity to take some of their art and display it in the District office.

### **Enrichment**

Heidi Clark reported the Enrichment classes start this week and there is full registration.

### **Yearbook**

There is a committee in place for the yearbook and the theme decided on for this year is "The Way We Grow".

They are looking into color yearbooks this year which will increase the cost to between \$15 and \$18 dollars this year, a little bit more than last year. There will also be a line added to donate an additional \$1 to your cost to make it possible for each child to receive a yearbook.

We have received a few pictures from Jog-a-thon, and have a few photographers that are willing to go to school events. The committee also would like all pictures that people are willing to share from the Jog-a-thon and any classroom or school events they have.

### **Principals Report**

Vickie welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a big thank you to the Jog-A-Thon committee and volunteers. The Jog-a-thon was a great success and even the wet children had a good time.

The book fair is a huge event every year and is up and running, thank you to the organizing committee.

This week is conferences where there will be goal setting with your child.

Halloween is a big event at Mary Woodward and the activities will be at the end of the day. They will try to have a normal school/learning day before and after lunch the following activities will commence.

- ◆ There will be a parade for the K-3<sup>rd</sup> graders and the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> graders will have a chance to watch.
- ◆ Children can wear costumes that are manageable.
- ◆ No masks during the day, only during the parade and in the classroom parties if the teacher permits.
- ◆ No blood, guts, gore or weapons will be allowed, children can ask Vickie if they are unsure, she is happy to be the nay sayer.
- ◆ If families would like to opt out of the Halloween activities children can be picked up after lunch, or let the staff know and they can spend time in the Library.

Instructional Assistants- the breakdown on how the funds are being spent is as follows:

#### **Reading Assistants**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – 3 classes for 45 minutes each class
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – 1 class for 90 minutes
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – 1 class for 45 minutes
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – 1 class for 45 minutes
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – 1 class for 30 minutes

#### **Math Assistants**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade – One instructional assistant for 60 minutes a day to be shared among the four classrooms. This assistant is for both advanced and struggling students.

#### TTSD Funded program – Reading Rocks

Vickie gave an overview of the program, Mary Woodward received approximately \$35K from the district that in addition to the literacy block it allows for 30-45 minutes daily for small group instruction currently serving 87 students that are below benchmark. These children are constantly monitored and the instruction is revised so those children that need it will be adjusted throughout the year. 28 additional students are being served in the Special Ed program for reading disabilities. Total approximately 115 kids are being served which is about 20% of the children in the school.

#### TTSD Foundation Educator Program

This program is used for only educators and cannot be used for goods. Last year it was used for the gardeners in residence program that provided a learning environment for the kids. There is \$6,500 available in this program and site council is currently discussing the best way to use the funds.

#### **New Business**

Pam Engel reported on the status of the spring fundraiser. There is currently not a committee or plan in place. We are going to have a special PSO meeting Monday, October 20, at 1:15 to share ideas and suggestions regarding the spring fundraiser. It is too late for an auction to be put into place, however we do need to raise the funds to provide for the instructional assistants in the following year. So far we have a few good fundraising ideas other than the auction and would like to discuss this further on Monday.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15.