

PSO Meeting
November 9, 2009
Mary Woodward Cafeteria, 9:00AM

Board Members Present: Natasha Ryan, Jill Weinstein, Lisa Stroud, Kathy Belden

Natasha welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The minutes from the October 2009 Meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report

There is still some outstanding Jog-A-Thon pledges to be collected, approximately \$2,000. Most of the instructional support checks have been processed and paid for the year. The main expenses left are Biz Town and Discretionary School Supplies which may or may not be necessary.

Volunteer Coordinator

Year to date there have been \$2,190 hours logged. Those who have over 40 hours were recognized. Please remember it is important to log your hours, we are still below last year and the district looks at volunteer help when approving programs, etc.

Staff Appreciation

We need bakers for two events for staff appreciation:

- 1) Day before Thanksgiving staff treats.
- 2) The December Cookie Exchange.

Spring Fundraiser

The location and entertainment have been secured for the Spring fundraiser, we will have more information at a later meeting.

Missoula Children's Theater

The theater this year was a great success. Ticket sales were down this year, but costs were still covered. Vickie commented on how much she enjoyed having it at Woodward in a smaller venue this year.

Book Fair

There were \$1,895 books sold during the book Fair. \$3,200 will go to our library. Teachers handed out \$110 of gift certificates to less fortunate families. The events included in book fair, Vickie dressing up, the fortune cookie game and grandparent day were all big hits.

Specialty Fundraiser

42 families have signed up for the PACE program, and sign ups are still open.

Family Events

There are voting slips for movie night. Vickie will have the kids vote on the movie during lunch time. The committee is looking for volunteers during the event. Ambassadors have also offered to help.

Principal's Report

The Book Fair went well, the funds earned recycles into the library budget for the year so we count on the book fair to supply the library with new books. Book Fair more than doubles their book budget and makes it so we have a nice collection for an elementary school.

Thank you also to Missoula Children's theater, it is a huge return for the school, it is totally self supporting, and an opportunity for the kids. There is no intent of it being fundraiser, so covering costs is just great. The staff appreciate the committee making that happen.

In the news the State is coming out with district report cards this week, MW gets highest rating again. The state changed their rating system and changed the names, it is called outstanding but still same as last year's exemplary.

This week is a crazy short week of school. Wednesday is a holiday, Thursday a teacher training on reading intervention and writing (school wide focus this year). This year they are doing a pre and post test 3 times to measure how children are growing with their writing skills. With this focus we are hoping to see a strengthening in writing skills. The other training happening this year is called Courageous Conversations, the district is taking a strong proactive stance on closing the achievement gap based on race. The staff will become more conscientious about different background and different cultures and teaching styles. This training is based on the book Courageous Conversations by Glenn Singleton.

Please be aware of all the calendar updates, November is a crazy short month, and in December there are only 14 days of instruction. The school appreciates children staying home when they are not well, there have been many kids out of school but when they stay home it keeps the illnesses from spreading.

There will be giving tree this year with gift requests are posted. There will be a list of requested items for each classroom to donate to a thanksgiving basket. The basket will go home to MW families in need. It would be good to donate these baskets in a container or basket (laundry basket) that can be used again.

Ambassadors are working with the food bank and doing a food drive in next few weeks in a competition with Alberta Rider.

President's Report

If you need to make copies, there is a code for the copier, if you ask the office staff they can tell you our code and we pay the office for this.

The Mary Woodward Bazaar is in three weeks, please spread the word. Please come and share in the fun and magic of the holiday season on December 5th, from 9am-3pm. We have all the adult vendors for the show, now we are working on getting the 4th and 5th graders signed up. Kidding around photography will be taking Santa pictures and giving each child a 4x6 photo free. They will be here from 9am-1pm. There will be a free craft area for the kids, including a movie. In addition there will be food for purchase. We are also working on advertising and will be putting up signs in the community soon.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45