

## **Blevins PTO Meeting Minutes-March 8, 2011**

- A) **Minutes:** Minutes from the January meeting were reviewed and approved with no changes. The February meeting was cancelled due to weather.
- B) **Budget:** Mr Linehan reported a current balance of \$3312.00, which includes one magazine deposit of \$42.00.
- a. **New Expenditures:** Mr Linehan reported that at least a couple teachers will be retiring/leaving at the end of this school year, and the PTO voted to contribute \$500.00 dollars from the PTO account to assist with goodbye plans for those teachers (party, gifts etc.). Additionally, two of our teachers were nominated/received significant awards recently. Mike Foster received the excellence in education nomination from Blevins, and Angela Polenz received a Mary Hull award. PTO voted to purchase gift cards at 25.00 dollars each for these teachers, and put them in a congratulations card from the PTO. These approved deductions from the budget bring our new balance to \$2,762.00.
  - b. **Budget planning for next year:** In the spring, PTO often makes tentative decisions regarding it's financial commitments for the following year. Due to more potential budget cuts in 2011-12, the group agreed to withhold commitment to support specific areas but noted the following areas as ones that PTO has supported in the past and is open to supporting next year: Rachels Challenge, Pink Shirt Challenge, Planners, Social Norming. Once more information is available, either late this spring or next fall, firmer PTO financial commitments will be made.
- C) **Budget Reductions for 2011-12:** Mr Linehan anticipates more budget cuts at the state level impacting the school district. Stay tuned for details....
- D) **Teacher Appreciation Week:** May 2-6 is teacher appreciation week. The group discussed providing a Mexican food lunch for the teachers on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Heather will contact Penny Hahn (we think she coordinated this last year) to see if she is available to take the lead again. Laura Knaff offered to assist with this as well. Details will be finalized at the April meeting.
- E) **8<sup>th</sup> grade celebration:** Mrs Life is the staff person in charge of this event and would like parent volunteers to help her. Interested parents may email her. Based on last year's success, it is scheduled to be a party at the park type event costing 5.00 per 8<sup>th</sup> grader to attend. Heather realized during this discussion that the celebration is planned for May 20<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon/evening and that about 20 of the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be leaving that morning for the "Goals 4 Youth" rafting/camping trip. Mr. Linehan will explore this issue and any potential alternatives for adjusting the dates of either the celebration or the trip.
- F) **Changing of the Guard:** Several PTO parents will moving on from Blevins next year. New parent participation will be needed...
- G) **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM