

Werner Elementary School PTA
5400 Mail Creek Lane
Fort Collins CO 80525

Minutes of the PTA General Meeting

September 14, 2010

- Call to Order** The meeting was called to order by PTA President Tiffany Haag Haag at 6:18 pm.
- Attendance** See attendance sign in sheet.
- Review of Minutes** Wendy Banks moved to approve May 2010 meeting minutes. Rhonda Robinson seconded the motion.
- Treasurer's Report** Current balance is \$14,382.52
Income - \$14,940.89
Expenses - \$2,290.01 + \$1,194.38 = \$3,484.39
- Status of reserves allocation which was approved in the spring - \$9,000 went to the purchase of new furniture (desks, tables, etc.) and \$5,000 went to teachers.
- The net income for Fall Festival was just over \$9,000.
- Principal's Update** Principal Camp invited everyone to the first Coffee Talk on Friday, September 17 at 9 am in the staff lounge. It is an informal gathering where attendees can ask questions and learn more about what is going on at Werner and the district. If you have something specific you want him to talk about, please let him know.
- Principal Camp said that Werner is currently over 500 kids. With the loss of 6th grade, those are good numbers for a school this size. He said that a few classes are a little tight, but are working on adding some additional help.
- Principal Camp said that you may see, or have seen, new books coming home with students. It is a new program Werner is using called "Treasures". He said it is a great program and has a lot of resources available for teachers.
- Mill Bond Update – Take a look at the PSD website for more information on the proposed mill bond. If you have questions, you can ask Principal Camp or Tiffany Haag who is serving on the committee.

School Accountability Committee – There is a school accountability committee in which parents and community representatives give recommendations to the school. If you are interested in being a part of the committee, talk to Tiffany Haag or Principal Camp.

New Business

Membership – Last year Werner earned the Aspen Award which is an increase of more than 10%. Tiffany Haag said we were the only school in PSD to receive it and one of only a few in the region.

We are currently at ~70 members, but hope to reach 130.

Committee Chair Updates

Bingo – Rebecca Creech reported that the first Bingo night of the year will be November 5th, and she promised it will be lots of fun! She has contacted those who signed up to help, but they can always use more help, so if interested let her know.

Birthday Books – Rhonda Robinson explained the Birthday Book program. A book can be purchased for a student's birthday and a name plate is put in the book with the child's name. They get to take the book home for one month, then it is added to the library's permanent collections. Last year ~70 books were added.

Book Club – A book club for adults, not the kids. Look for information in the newsletter.

Chess Club – there are approximately 70 members this year. There is a competitive group, of which a chess instructor has been hired. There is a fee for the competitive group. There is also a recreational group.

Community Service – The committee is planning a book drive in addition to some of the activities from last year such as Meals that Matter and Werner Cares and Shares which is scheduled for December 9th.

Directory – The directory had a good response this year and it will be sent home with students in a couple of weeks.

Fall Festival – Julie Grillo expressed her thanks for all the help that made the Fall Festival a huge success this year. She and Wanda Molinary Knipp were extremely pleased with the turnout and the amount of money raised. She asked everyone to write down the good, bad, and changes they would suggest on a sticky note, or contact her with comments.

Gold C Coupon Books – The Gold C books will be distributed in this week's Thursday/Friday folders. The cost is \$10 and orders are due by October 1st.

Julie Grillo brought up that it may seem like the Werner PTA does a lot, and

they do, do a lot, but not to feel overwhelmed by everything. You can pick and choose which activities/fundraisers you wish to participate in.

King Soopers Cards – Ann Zollman reported that we have sold over 100 \$5 cards so far to 64 families. 5% of the purchases will go to Werner. It can be used for groceries, gas, and prescriptions.

Brian Field said that at his previous school in California, there were a lot of companies that offered fundraising opportunities to schools.

Laura Mahal said that Safeway has a program that you can sign up for individually and information is printed at the bottom of your receipt. The PTA will look into it.

Odyssey of the Mind – Carol Wilusz reported that the structure has changed this year and the teams that do well can go to state and/or nationals. They will start forming teams mid-October.

Newsletter – The newsletter is going green and being emailed. If you want a printed copy, take a look at the August newsletter for a form. The printed copy will go home in your child's Thursday/Friday folder. Deadline for submissions for the October issue is September 16th.

Spirit Wear – There are samples in the office, under the volunteer name badge table. The goal this year is 100 orders.

Upcoming Dates

Werner Night Out - September 30th at Noodles and Company. They are very generous and give us 25%. Tiffany Haag said that the first Werner night out is usually the most well attended and combined with the 25% back, it should be a success.

Other

Movie Night – Tiffany Haag asked members to nominate movies for consideration. Normally G rated movies are preferred, but some PG may be acceptable. Tiffany Haag will send a survey out to the membership.

Macy's Shop for a Cause – Rhonda Robinson said that Macy's would like to offer Werner the opportunity to participate in a one day "Shop for a Cause". The customer would buy a coupon book for \$5 and it allows you one 25% off coupon as well as other coupons that be used that day. You can also be entered into a drawing for a \$500 shopping spree (no purchase is necessary, just the \$5 book).

Old Business

Popcorn Popper Update– In the spring, the membership approved the purchase of a popcorn popper that could be used at Werner activities. The

popper was ordered, and delivered. However, once put together it was much, much smaller than expected. So it was sent back. If we were to purchase one that was comparable to the one we have rented, the cost would be around \$500. At this point, we will not purchase the more expensive machine. Preston has one that we can perhaps use if our activities do not conflict.

Carol Wilusz asked what the priced difference was and offered to donate money for the difference. Tiffany Haag will discuss with her later.

Carol Wilusz moved to adjourn the meeting. Ann Zollman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Speaker Series: Ernie Batson from the Learning House discussed how to deal with power struggles with children. His main points were:

1. Power struggles begin and end with me.
2. Words can be your friend or your enemy.
3. If I want to change a child's behavior, I have to change myself.

In a fun and light hearted way, he offered advice on how to avoid power struggles with children in various situations.