

**PTO Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 7, 2009**  
**Colfax Cafeteria**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**EB members present:**

Katherine Cosentino

Michael Dickey

Paul Foster

Darcy Gordon

Mike Gordon

Tom Juring

Ida Simpson

Diane Condie

David May-Stein

Randi Sarkin

Introductions

Market Day Fundraiser (Diane Condie and Market Day reps)

- Students will receive an order sheet each month in backpack mail.
- Orders can also be placed online.
- Deliveries are made to the Colfax cafeteria.
- Items include vegetables, meats, dairy, seafood, prepared foods, etc.
- A total of 100 sales in the first month will earn Colfax a \$100 bonus.
- Anybody making an order in the first month will get a free tote bag.
- School gets 10% on sales, plus bonus profits at specific times.

Party For Play (Tom Juring for Beth Tiffany)

- Saturday, February 21 at Pittsburgh Golf Club.
- Adults only event.

Read-A-Thon (Tom Juring for Beth Tiffany)

- January 23 – February 13.
- Looking for \$100 sponsors.
- **Motion raised by Paul Foster on behalf of Executive Board to allocate not more than \$800 from PTO budget for advance expenses (contingent on potential sponsorship money). Seconded by Mike Dickey. Motion passes unanimously.**

Middle Level Fundraising (Tom Juring)

- Fundraising money goes through the PTO, not a separate formal organization.
- Lisa Stupar calculates (and PTO records confirm) that there is a total of \$862 they are hoping to carry over from last fiscal year. We had budgeted \$1,500 last year.

MLPTAC raised \$1,727 last year, plus our \$1,500 = \$3,227. They spent \$2,365, which would leave the \$862 balance.

- Tom Juring will talk with Lisa to explain that we allocated more in the budget this year in a good faith effort to acknowledge their past fundraising efforts. Tom will also serve on the MLPTAC to provide input on fundraising, expenditures and the calendar.
- PTO allocated more in the budget this year (\$1,650) in a good faith effort to acknowledge the Middle Level fundraising efforts.
- All parents are welcome to attend or be involved in the PTO budget allocation.
- DMS - Surplus funds can possibly be earmarked to the end-of-year Middle Level trip.
- DMS – Middle Level allocation of funds should be discussed and decided in advance.

Treasurer's Report is in the Newsletter.

#### Communications (Paul Foster)

- Central office for Pittsburgh Public School District may be blocking access to Yahoo Groups, including Colfax PTO Group.
- DMS will investigate and pursue with district IT to resolve access issues and provide permissions.

#### Fundraising (Mike Dickey)

- Response to year-end ask letter raised \$1,400 through the generosity of Colfax parents.
- Thanks to those who donated and those who helped the effort.
- Shannon Ewing - Box Tops check has been received for over \$600, also Webkinz boxtops program is underway and has been very successful.
- DMS – On behalf of staff, a formal, sincere thank you to PTO for holiday gift.

#### Events (Ida Simpson)

- January 28 – Ice skating at Schenley Park rink, sponsored by the PTO. 7-9 p.m., Entry is FREE to Colfax families. Skate rental is an extra charge.
- April 15 – Mosaic Night at Colfax.
- March and May events TBD (Movie Night and Extravaganza Uno).

#### Principal's Update (David May-Stein)

##### Future of the ALA...

- There was a major error in today's Post-Gazette newspaper report.
- Proposal for next year: Two less days during the school year (at the end) and student's day will be 20 minutes shorter (dismissed at 3:10). Starting time will still be 8:00 a.m. (First period will start at 8:05 a.m., as opposed to the current 8:17 a.m.).
- Homeroom period will be shorter.

- Teacher day will remain the same length, but more time for planning, paperwork, etc.
- Pending Board approval for 2009-10 school year.
- Expect the ALA model to remain as is.
- David is working to retain teachers who are currently here.
- After school programs will start at 3:10. Activities bus will come and leave around 4:30. This will be beneficial because earlier than rush hour to help get kids home earlier.
- Looping cycle status (two or three year) is still to be determined, but it will continue as part of the America's Choice model. K, 1 and 2, DMS is not looking to loop.
- Question about possible drop-off change to busses in front, drop in back. DMS: Priority is keeping students as far from street as possible and busses away from main street as much as possible. Possibly discuss having all drop offs in back.
- Suggestion raised to consider opening the building earlier than 8:00 (for non-breakfast students) if first period is to begin at 8:05 a.m.

Gifted Pilot Meeting for Colfax and Dilworth families will take place from 6:00-7:30 at District Board office building on Thursday, Jan. 8. The four gifted liaisons from Colfax will attend.

PSCC Meeting scheduled for January 20, but will be rescheduled.

Inauguration program from 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders, will watch part of the ceremonies on Jan. 20.

Playground Wall Update – Shannon Ewing

- Had been working with Paul Gill, who is leaving his position. Shannon will arrange meeting to move project forward.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

***Next PTO meeting is Wednesday, 2/4/09.***