



ATTENDEES

Kelly Barker, Jeannie Houts, Linda Hoopes, Mike Houts, Heather Watgen, Joni Weiss, Aline Hoey, Brandy Ernzen, Laura Diaz Moore, Cindy McCoy, Sara Taliaferro, and Scott Cinnamon were in attendance.

PRINCIPAL CINNAMON'S REPORT

December happenings include Cordley Choir's concert at Liberty Memorial Middle School. Grades Three through Five had MAP testing in December. Kindergarten through Second Grade are currently having MAP testing.

This month, the school kicked off its Martin Luther King studies and events, including the water.org fundraiser. The goal for the fundraiser is to collect \$1,000.00.

The Lawrence School Board now has a 92 million-dollar bond proposal that will be voted upon during the April 2 elections. This includes 9 million dollars for Cordley and will include a two-story renovation that incorporates the historic portions of the building. The plans call to almost double the size of the school, add an elevator, reconfigure the "square" currently formed between the wings of the building. The mural would be retained. Different architects could be involved with different schools and/or phases of the bond project if the bond passes. A meeting concerning the bond will be held at Cordley School at 7:00 PM on February 27. Superintendent Doll wants a team of parent volunteers to help distribute information. Anyone who is interested should contact Mr. Cinnamon, and he will forward their names to the district.

TREASURERS REPORT (please see attachment)

Aline Hoey reviewed the treasurer's report. The Cordley Carnival made \$1,723.54. After subtracting t-shirt costs, the amount is \$1,198.66. We can continue to sell t-shirts at other events, including at this fall's Carnival, to eventually recoup the investment in printing the t-shirts. We have about \$1,000.00 for Martathon Club, including a balance of a bit over \$200.00 from the community grant from Self Assists foundation. We have about \$200.00 left from the Holiday Families program, but Denise Parker-Timms wanted to send out a follow-up questionnaire to families to better assess how the program did serve and could serve the community best. We made a little bit of money on spirit wear and have t-shirts to give out if needed. Someone noted that Gary Gribble displays school shirts in their store downtown and wondered if they would display any school's spirit wear or if those are shirts Gary Gribble sells. It was thought that the latter is true.

Aline will work to get an exact amount that is available for teacher wish lists.



CO-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In the spirit of moving the meeting along, the presidents indicated that they would like to move on to old business.

OLD BUSINESS

HOLIDAY FAMILIES: Several ideas for Holiday Families were discussed. There was support for the survey of families. In addition, suggestions were discussed, such as talking to Catherine Bolton to see if we could determine if there were families not being served or how other schools set up their programs, and having something on the application form itself that asks if families are receiving services elsewhere.

The discussion moved to bigger picture issues, such as what we thought our goals as an organization were--general service, supporting additional education-related activities...? It was agreed that further discussion of holiday families needed to occur when the co-chairs of that program were able to be present. The bigger picture discussion could occur as part of mission statement discussion.

SPIRIT WEAR: The Spirit Wear process went smoothly. We have about a dozen shirts left, including adult shirts, since Lee threw in some extra shirts with our ordered ones.

NEW BUSINESS

FAMILY POTLUCUK: Amy Cowardin-Schmidt is the chair of this and was not able to attend the meeting. One of the concerns from years past is that of not having enough food to feed everyone. We need more volume of food. This in part might be accomplished by encouraging everyone to bring larger amounts of their contributions and simply advertising more in advance to get the word out to parents. Especially since having this coincide with the Book Fair, attendance is good for the event (attendance increases for both events). We do have a little extra money to spend and might get additional food for the second half of the event, when food typically has run out. Perhaps chili made for us by food service or getting some catered food were mentioned as options. Should the purchased food be of some ethnicity? The suggestion to limit people to one time through the line or simply having signage to ask people to limit serving sizes was considered. Laura Diaz Moore made a motion to spend \$150.00 to \$200.00 on additional food for the event. Cindy McCoy seconded the motion. All present indicated support for the motion.

BOOK FAIR: Michaelanne is organized and will have a report by next meeting.



NATURE AND LANGUAGE CLUBS: Nature Club is ready to go. Plans for Language Club are still being finalized. The Languages that might be taught include Russian, Spanish, Kiswahili, and Japanese.

WATER.ORG SERVICE PROJECT: The children are really responding to the project and seem to have retained a lot of the presentation at the kick-off assembly for the event. Such facts as the number of daily deaths in the world as a result of contaminated water consumption and lack of sanitation really made a deep impression on the children. Related activities during the fundraiser include a water-related fact a day during morning announcements. Winter parties are scheduled for January 18th and will happen after the fundraiser has wrapped up. There will be an assembly to review the results of the fundraiser. Perhaps a water.org representative can be present, since they have a Kansas City office.

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS:

- An in-depth discussion was held on holding a friendship/complement exchange party, perhaps on February the 13th. Some felt this was too much like a Valentine Party, and some wished the Valentine Party was still an event that was held at Cordley. The idea the older children may be happy not to participate in such a party was considered. Would there be resources given by the PTA to support this event? Could the resources be used at any time during the month of February? Could we let individual room parents decide how this is handled? Teachers had discussed the class parties and changes made--as long as teachers do not have to decide and materials are provided, might it be okay to hold this party? Mr. Cinnamon will discuss this with staff next week and report back. A larger issue of how we communicate when making decisions where everyone has something at stake was raised.
- Jeannie Houts suggested tabling the discussion on our organization being a PTA versus a PTO. She will provide information and clarification at a future meeting.
- The agenda items of a Mission Statement for the Cordley PTA, Geography Night, and Family Reading Night were tabled for the next meeting.
- The next PTA Meeting is February 5th at 7:00 PM.

Brandy Ernzen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Aline Hoey seconded.