



### **ATTENDEES**

Jeannie Houts, Linda Hoopes, Todd Shryock, Brandy Ernzen, Brad and Kim Critchitt, Renee Rodenbeek, Kristi Kamm Saint Onge, Sara Taliaferro, Kelly Barker, Scott Cinnamon, Paul Hahn, Dani Lotton Barker, Joyce Bell, Cindy McCoy, Christina Holt, Sally Zogry, and Laura Diaz Moore were in attendance.

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Everyone introduced themselves and noted their children in the school. PTA Board Members identified themselves: Co-Presidents Kelly Barker and Jeannie Houts and Secretary Sara Taliaferro were present. Treasurer Aline Hoey was not present yet was acknowledged.

### **CORDLEY CARNIVAL**

Sally Zogry, Cordley Carnival Coordinator, noted that the Cordley Carnival is the PTA's biggest fundraiser. She is implementing some changes and wants to emphasize wellness and community. First, she is inviting local food vendors to set up booths or stands. Her hope is to get a wider variety and healthier selection of foods and also remove the burden of setting up and serving food from Cordley volunteers. She will meet with our local sponsor, Dillons, before proceeding with this. She also hopes to have all foods under a certain cost and have inexpensive options available. She is planning more games in addition to those we had last year--for example, she has arranged to have lazer tag and two "hamster balls" at the Carnival. She wants most of the activities to be physical in nature.

To promote the wellness theme for the Carnival, she is planning to ask groups to set up a table, display, or booth at the Carnival. For example, Hy-Vee (to inform about their regional marathon event), the Cordley Marathon Club, the Merc, and County Extension (with their sugar and fat consumption display) might participate.

Donations for the Silent Auction portion of the Carnival are needed. Sally and Sara are encouraging creativity. Parents can donate goods or services or solicit them from the community. Sara will have letters for potential donors available at the Watermelon Feed.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Mr. Cinnamon reported that we currently have 291 students enrolled, close to what we had last year. He is pleased that after budget cuts in the past years, the school board increased the budget to allow additional teachers, so a new section has been added to the First, Second, and Fourth grades, allowing around seventeen students in each of the three sections in each of those grades.



Food Service has launched a new program to promote healthier choices at lunchtime and more guidance for students in making those choices. The five choices are a meat or meat substitute, dairy, grain, fruit, and vegetables. The choices are color-coded. Students must choose at least three of the five choices, and one of those choices must be a fruit or a vegetable. There are accompanying changes to the menu.

The Lawrence School Board has chosen architects Gould Evans for the work of planning the school improvements. A bond issue will be put before voters in the spring, and it will cover, primarily, improvements to six schools, including Cordley, in the north and eastern portions of the city. It will also review technology and have some improvements to the other schools. A series of open meetings with parents will be held through December, and pre-bond planning is scheduled to wrap up in January. The bond proposal will be vetted to the public January through April.

#### **TREASURERS REPORT (please see attachment)**

We received reimbursement for Box Tops money for the new soccer nets, and, in addition, Randy Masten got soccer goals donated to replace the current ones. These will all be installed soon.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The budget is in decent shape. The PTA has been careful with the budget for the last few years. We would like to spend money so that the current students who have helped raise the funds get benefit of the expenditures and also continue to manage the money carefully.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

We need a coordinator for Spirit Wear, t-shirts and hoodies bearing the school logo. Forms for Spirit Wear will be send out in mid-September. The PTA rounds up the number of shirts purchased to ensure extras and works with school staff to identify students who would like a shirt but might not be able to afford it.

PTA Membership dues are renewed or paid at the beginning of the school year! The cost is \$3.50 per family. Forms will be available at the watermelon feed, and Jeannie has them.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Two line items were proposed for the PTA budget. One line could be added for a Cordley Discretionary Fund (no set name/title was given) in the amount of \$500. The monies will be used to cover needs/additional requests (school pictures, shoes, socks, co-pay advancements, etc.) at the discretion of the Principal and Staff. Brandy Ernzen made a motion to add a Discretionary Fund line item to the PTA budget, and Christina Holt seconded it.



The second line item was suggested by past Cordley Carnival Coordinator, Jenny Lanning-Rush, which is that the supplies costs for the class project auction items be added to the PTA budget and taken out of the Carnival budget. For the past couple years, Kindergarten teacher Kelly Rettig has coordinated class projects that each class created--which were painted and decorated chairs one year, flowerpots the next--that were auctioned off. She is not able to do so this year, so we need a new coordinator for this project if we want to include it in our fundraiser. With the class projects for this year perhaps being suspended, this item was tabled.

The PTA 2012-2013 Calendar is posted and will go home tomorrow with students.

The PTA budget was reviewed, with a couple explanations for new members.

- The item “flags” are for the flag display seen hanging in the hall near the main entrance to the school. We have a flag for every country that has been represented by a Cordley student. We purchase new ones as needed. Principal Cinnamon noted that the School District approved more money for transportation (field trips), so Cordley would not necessarily need the money the PTA would provide for transportation. After some discussion, it was decided that in the past, the transportation budget had been cut and the number of field trips reduced, so the PTA wants to continue giving the funds so that additional field trips could be planned.
- Kelly Barker noted that the item devoting \$150.00 to Geography Night was a new one from the end of last school year and that he was the coordinator for this event. Creating Geography night came out of the desire to create more educational evening events. The event is still in planning stages and needs to get added to the PTA schedule.
- Kelly also noted that the PTA serves as a pass-through or clearing house for club budgets, as listed at the end of the PTA budget in a separate section. These monies are not part of the PTA budget proper, but we do manage them.

A motion was made by Renee Rodenbeek to tentatively approve the draft budget pending the addition of a line added for Cordley Discretionary Fund (no set name/title given) in the amount of \$500. Brad Critchitt seconded. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Newsletter items are needed by September 1 for inclusion in the September edition.

Jeannie Houts announced that Sharon Ashworth, past PTA president, applied for a \$500.00 PTO grant. She outlined how the PTA performed with grace as a “school under duress” during the proposed school closings. Cordley PTA was awarded the grant.



Upcoming events were also announced:

- The Watermelon Feed is this Thursday, August 23rd from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM in conjunction with the Meet and Greet, which is 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM.
- The next PTA Meeting is September 11th at 7:00pm. Unless there is a holiday or other conflict, PTA Meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. The PTA budget and the line item for the Class Auction Project costs were carried forward.
- Garden and Grounds Work Day is September 16th from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. The rain-date is September 23rd with the same times. Volunteers to offer child care for this event are being considered.
- Cordley Carnival is September 28th. Laura Diaz-Moore mentioned that the Cordley Chess Club has event tents that they use for the students who offer chess matches at Cottin's Farmers' Market on Thursdays. Technically, these event tents belong to the PTA and are available for the Cordley Carnival and other PTA events.
- The PTA wants to do a better job getting the word out for these events. The school messenger system can be used, and we do have an e-mail list. Jeannie asked that people add their e-mails to the sign-in sheet if they wish to be added to the list.

Laura Diaz-Moore made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dani Lotten-Barker seconded.