

Minutes of the Meridian PTO

Monday, November 14th, 2011

Monroe Center, IL

This meeting of the Meridian PTO at Monroe Center Grade School was called to order at 6:01pm.

Board members present included: Dawn Clinton (Vice President), Melissa Lewis (Secretary), Cindy Raimer (Treasurer), Bob Morelan (Superintendent), Leslie Showers (MC Principal), Heather Wallin, Kari DeRosso, Theresa Fitzsimmons, Laura Gray, Malynnda Mueller, teacher Shannon Kaltenbach and parent members Joy Kohler and Kim Marsili.

Dawn Clinton mentioned there were thank you notes from the Monroe Center secretaries for lunch at the start of the year and from Joyce Wills (intervention at MC) and Karen Burch for the \$125 stipends.

1. OLD BUSINESS

A. **October 2011 Minutes:** Motion was made by Dawn Clinton to approve October minutes as reviewed, seconded by Cindy Raimer, all in favor, motion passed.

B. **Vote New Members:** Cindy Raimer made a motion for Kim Marsili to be a board member, Heather Wallin seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

C. **Credit/Debit card proposal (tabled from October meeting):** the credit/debit card needs to be applied for with a limit of \$500 at point of sale, with a \$10 limit on ATM purchases, only the organization's Treasurer may authorize a temporary increase for POS transaction limits, will reconcile account and review all transactions, and will not divulge PIN number to either authorized user. Heather Wallin made a motion to accept the proposal as stated (with changes to be made to the bylaws): Kari DeRosso seconded, roll call vote taken; Cindy-yes, Dawn-yes, Heather W.-yes, Kari-yes, Laura-yes, Theresa-yes, Kim-yes, Malynnda-yes. Motion passed.

D. **Treasurer's Report:** Cindy Raimer stated that the fundraiser proceeds for the Mega Money Raffle were at \$17,400. Less the payouts, printing raffle tickets, stamps and prizes for winners, we netted a profit of \$7,837.74. Melissa Lewis made a motion to approve Treasurer's Report, Malynnda Mueller seconded, all in favor, motion passed. Dawn Clinton made a motion to approve a bank stamp proposal to the staff, Cindy Raimer seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

E. **Spiritwear:** Kari DeRosso made a motion to sell Spiritwear at cost to Meridian staff, Heather Wallin seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

F. **Santa & Elves:** Kari DeRosso reports that manpower is needed to get merchandise to both schools on December 4, with a sign-up sheet forthcoming and a PTO member is needed to work the cash box. Kari is ready with lots of great items to sell this year.

G. **School Kidz:** Cindy Raimer made a motion to add Junior High 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades to School Kidz fundraiser list, Dawn Clinton seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

H. **Easy Shop Report:** Dawn Clinton made a *motion\** to have teachers participate in the Scrip program to receive a 50% credit towards approved stipends. Cindy Raimer seconded, \* *Motion was amended to state that certified staff, administrative assistants, and principals participate in the Scrip program to receive a 50% credit towards approved stipends. Roll call vote was taken: Cindy-yes, Dawn-yes, Kari-yes, Kim-yes, Laura-yes, Malynnda-yes, Melissa-yes, Theresa-yes, Heather-yes.*

**Refer a friend proposal:** Cindy Raimer made a motion that those who placed orders by December 5 deadline has an opportunity to earn a \$25 scrip card of their choice if they refer a friend in January. Motion seconded by Melissa Lewis, all in favor, motion passed.

I. **Family Fun Nights report:** Heather Wallin made a motion to amend the dates of the Family Fun Nights as follows: Highland Bingo, February 24, 2012; and Bowling at TBD on April 27, 2012. Kari DeRosso seconded, all in favor, motion passed. Cindy Raimer made a motion to approve Magic Night with Rob Erdmann with the cost not to exceed \$600, with a tentative date of January 27, pending his approval, and adding a Book Fair. Dawn Clinton seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

**Raffle Baskets:** discussion ensued of possible basket theme ideas for each class, with Dawn and Cindy to make list. Heather Wallin will draft a letter to parents to have before Black Friday. Leslie Showers will donate four Cubs tickets and a parking pass for designated basket. Leslie also mentioned that Dodgeball would be a great idea for Monroe Center's family fun night, and stated that younger siblings needed an activity to do other than dodgeball. Other ideas she mentioned was to have a NHS student to help in watching younger children, and to check with Kim Hiert for more information.

**Great Wolf Lodge tickets proposal:** Cindy Raimer made a motion to purchase additional Great Wolf Lodge discounted overnight stay tickets at \$150 for an event or to use in the raffle baskets at Family Fun Nights. Melissa Lewis seconded, all voted yes, except Kari DeRosso voted no. Motion carries.

**Bingo Books proposal:** Cindy Raimer made a motion to approve the purchase of 300 books at \$1.00 each for Bingo Night, Dawn Clinton seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

J. **Room Parent Committee:** Heather Wallin to notify room parents of class themes for Bingo.

K. **Christmas in September report:** Monroe Center Specialists had a discrepancy in their Great Leaps Math order (they preferred Great Leaps over PALS program), so Dawn Clinton made a motion to approve Great Leaps Math program and spend an additional \$17.50 above what was already budgeted, Kari DeRosso seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

L. **Mega Money Raffle Ticket Fundraiser Report:** Wednesday, November 16 at 8:45 am is the assembly at Highland. Monroe Center's is TBD. Jason Drake's idea was to race the Mr. Bacon's as entertainment along with the Principals kissing the pig.

## 2. NEW BUSINESS

A. **School Reports:** Monroe Center-nothing to report, Highland-nothing to report

**B. *Kim Marsili fundraiser ideas:*** Kim mentioned several ideas for fundraising, including a Pancake Breakfast, Celebrating Home (home goods, etc.), a Spring clothing drive, Parent's Night Out-Wine and Dinner night, and a Cookbook where parents submit recipes. In order to do a cookbook, the PTO would consider sponsors to offset costs of printing the books, and timeline would be to have books ready by Mother's Day. Discussion ensued on looking for at least three sponsors by the December meeting in order to consider this as a possible fundraiser.

Heather Wallin brought up another fundraising idea called Race for Education; a jog-a-thon (this would be during the school day) that could tie in to the Health and Wellness program through the District. Joy Kohler mentioned there is a similar event in Woodstock, IL called Fit for the Future that brought in several thousand dollars for that district.

**C. *Ho Ho Hope for the Holidays:*** Cindy Raimer mentioned that the guidance counselor is looking for help in coordinating groups for helping decorate donation barrels to be placed throughout the area. They served over 200 students with coats and Christmas gifts last year, this year the Village of Davis Junction is donating \$1000 towards the dime drive, and Veolia will be matching it.

Motion to adjourn made by Dawn Clinton, seconded by Melissa Lewis; meeting adjourned at 9:04pm.

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Lewis

**\*\*Addendum to minutes: By e-mail vote on November 20, 2011, Cindy Raimer made a motion to offer the Scrip Fundraiser to ALL school staff. Any school staff that orders from this program will have a 50/50 split on the rebate (50% to PTO general account, and 50% to an account they direct), Jason Drake seconded, and the following voted yes, Dawn, Malynnda, Kari, Laura, Heather W., Theresa, and Melissa. Kim and Deb abstained. Those in favor, motion carries.**