

**Minutes of the Hill Middle School PTSA
October 7, 2008**

Call to Order: Jody Eriksen called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

Attendance:

Jody Eriksen, Allan Davenport, Susan Paoli, Pete Roets, Heather Roets, Patti Peltier, Cari Shanahan, Mike Kolak, Catherine Korp, Debora Garcia, Lynda Barker, Alicia Burns, Donna Limper, Julie Ridgeway, Nancy Spring-Epley, Martha Blount, Jennifer Streder, Jacqueline Campero, Greg Hubert, Sherri Karnezis-Lloyd, Julie Coley, Irma Almazon-Zepeda

Minutes: September minutes approved as read.

Treasurer: Financials presented through August, 2008.

President's Report:

New District 204 board member Cathy Piehl was a previous and future Hill parent. Metea PTA will be starting up and Hill is contributing \$800. The amount to be contributed to Fisher (new middle school) is still to be determined. Jennifer Streder motions to increase our allowable maximum donation (item #3 of our standing rules) to be increased from \$300 to \$800. Motion carries.

Most open positions have been filled now. The Committee Chair positions for Ways & Means and Social are not filled. Issues are being handled by the President and the executive board as necessary with more responsibility being given to the specific functional coordinators. Will work to fill positions for 8th grade Honors Breakfast and Testing Breakfast. There will be a revenue decrease this year if gym shirts will no longer be required and no one volunteers to be in charge of concessions. Concessions brought in approximately \$500. There will be a spring (instead of winter) greenery fundraiser with sales of annuals and other plantings available.

There is a new file cabinet in the office with PTSA information organized by position and events. There is also a PTSA closet available for storing committee information. This is located on the 2nd floor next to the elevator.

Membership:

There are currently 1,012 parents, students and staff. This is not 100% of staff at this point.

Administration Report:

Student Council positions have been announced. There will be a representative at the next meeting.

Metea Valley Parent update meetings are taking place and information can be found on the website.

October 22nd is Jimmy Johns night. If diners use the coupon that is being distributed to all students and eat at the location on Diehl road, 10% of proceeds will be given to Hill. The funds will go into the Student Activity Fund which is used for incentives, student activities (for kids with financial hardship), and assemblies.

October 24th is the charity softball game at Frontier Park. This is the culmination of the food drive being sponsored by our 6 middle schools. Contributions will be given to Loaves & Fishes and Hesed House. Concession stand proceeds will also go to charities. Each school's PTSA is to provide a volunteer for the concession stand.

Kids need to make sure that personal belongings are locked up during the day. Hill Administration has been trying to stress this to the students, but valuables are still left out in the open. Photos were taken by Administration to show the condition of the locker rooms. Some personal belongings were also removed so that the kids are aware of the situation. Theft will continue to be an issue if the lockers and locks are not utilized.

Karen Ebner, LMC Director, was the winner of the Office Max Adopt-A-Teacher contest. She was awarded \$1,300 in school supplies and a digital camera. Karen Popovich is working with art classes in cooperation with Northern Illinois to create canvas art for "Tents of Hope" project. This is to raise awareness for the situation in Darfur.

Ways & Means:

Apparel is finished for the year; Fall orders have been received. There are still some medium and extra large P.E. shirts available in the office.

Labels/Boxtops fundraiser has not been actively pursued recently, but Laura King is going to take this over. There will be a receptacle in the office. We currently have 17,000 points which can be used to purchase items from a catalog. This catalog will be kept in the teacher's lounge so a "wish list" can be created.

Gingerbread Junction will be held on Saturday, December 6th from 9 am to 3 pm. A change from last year is that there will be a donut guy on site who will give 35% of proceeds to PTSA. There is no cost to us to have him there. Also, there is some concern about attendance this year given the economy. There will be free entrance tickets for teachers to encourage attendance. Money is generated from the admission fees, booth fees and food. All booths have been filled, except for 6. The crafters keep the direct proceeds they collect. A new crafter coordinator will be needed for next year as the current coordinator will no longer have children at Hill.

Service:

The directory is being compiled. No distribution date has been set yet. A list will be provided to the school office of names listed with no phone numbers to verify that this is intentional. Membership cards are being printed, but the process will be reviewed for simplification.

Faculty Report: No report.

Educational Enrichment:

There will be an in-school assembly for Red Ribbon week on October 21st. Matt Wilhelm, an extreme medalist winner on BMX bikes, will be talking about drug prevention in a unique and interesting way. On October 17th, ribbons will be put on trees and fences around the school. Volunteers are welcome to help after school. Kids will also receive pencils. Reflections entries are due October 10th. There are only 3 entries so far.

School Representatives:

The Metea Valley Nominating Committee will have their slate posted by October 20th. November 20th is the first PTA meeting at the district office. All who attend the meeting can join the PTA in the beginning of the meeting and pay their dues and then the election will take place. After the election, the first official PTA meeting will take place. For further details, go to the Metea website.

PDAC is hosting its cultural fair on the same day as Gingerbread Junction. Will review whether this date can be changed. The next dialogue circle on November 15th is being held at Hill Middle School. Greater participation is encouraged so that more experiences and meaningful discussion can take place between all people.

Student PTSA Report:

There is confusion over the name so will look to change and emphasize it as the Student PTSA Project Committees. There is still not enough volunteers so will tie the group to more event based activities including Red Ribbon Week, Gingerbread Junction, and use student PTSA members. Do Something is franchised and has strong interest from the kids. \$300 was collected for SMA through the penny jar from Do Something. Hill Happenings with newscasts will take a lot of work, but with the help from faculty, it should also be a reality.

There will be a kick-off meeting where kids can get information and determine which activities are of greatest interest to them. Six more parents are needed to be present at this meeting. An early morning meeting is being considered due to the large number of afternoon conflicts in October. After this initial meeting, the student volunteers will be tied in to the larger event coordinators.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Susan Paoli
Secretary