

**APT Meeting Minutes for
November 17, 2009 (Pending Approval)**

Heather Beering – President- The meeting was called to order at 9:00am. There were approximately 45-50 people present. Welcomes and introductions were conducted. The October 2009 minutes were distributed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Julie Lawford

The following Budget Reports were handed out: APT Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual September 2009 through October 2009 and the Amberly APT Treasurer's Report. Copies of these budget reports are available for review upon request.

President's Report: Heather Beering

Achievement Expo- A chair is still needed for Achievement Expo, which will be the first week in March to include projects from After School Enrichment. This is a fun and exciting event for the kids. Several past chairs are still at Amberly – easy!

Next APT Meeting – The next meeting is January 19 at 7pm. Speakers will be two teachers regarding sensory issues.

Volunteers – All volunteers working with children are asked to fill out a background check sheet and return it to the office.

Winter Gear – The office is still collecting gently used winter clothing items which will be given to Amberly families in need.

Thank You – Thank you to: Jill & Rudy Ruterbusch for chairing Fifth Grade Cleanup, Lisa & Matthew Mace for working on the Directory, Becky Bach for organizing Community Sharing, Noralyn Pridgeon for organizing the Family Fun Skate Night, Betsy Scheffel and Kim Warren for organizing the first event for Staff Appreciation, and Kim Gates and Michelle O'Hearn for organizing Movie Night this Friday. Thanks to all who help in the classrooms and help prepare for coming events.

Past President: Jennifer Gatz

APT Closet-Several weeks ago, the APT closet was cleaned out. It is now organized! There is an inventory list posted on the side of the shelving unit. Before you purchase any items for your committee, please check the closet.

Audit-Last week, the executive board discussed conducting an audit of the APT finances. No problems are suspected at this time. However, it is felt that now is the time to establish an audit process to verify our financial numbers, ensure accuracy and assess procedures. If you can help with the audit committee (especially if you have a financial background or previous experience conducting an audit), contact Jennifer Gatz: 372-7083 or tjgatz@sbcglobal.net.

President Elect: Jeslyn Gordon

The staff bathrooms are going to get a mini-makeover courtesy of APT. If you would like to help, contact Jeslyn Gordon.

Fundraising Chair: Miranda Garside Nothing to report.

Committee Reports

Enrichment: Rita McKenzie The Stranger Danger presentation went very well. The students enjoyed it and many parents attended. The next assembly is December 14 with Guy Louis from the Chatauqua Express presenting the World Holiday Music Tour. Toma the Mime will be back in January. The Geo Science assembly is coming in February.

Principal's Report: Mary Daoust

Conferences are coming up this week. Movie Night is this Friday and "Up!" will be shown. Thanks to all who donated Halloween costumes. A question was asked about what time students should be allowed in the building to have breakfast. Safeties have not been allowing students inside before the bell. Mary said that students can come in at 8:20 for breakfast.

Old Business – No Old Business

New Business

Request for APT Funds: Heather Beering- The Reading Support Team (Christy Gaines, Brian Dobbie and Maggie Hills) submitted a request to APT to pay for nonfiction books to introduce and reinforce vocabulary and concepts. They are attending a conference later this week and have an opportunity to purchase books at a discount with no shipping charges. Total funds requested: \$460. The Executive Board discussed this last week and recommends that members consider funding

\$200. This, in addition to \$75 the three teachers receive as a Staff Appreciation gift, will allow them \$275 to spend at the conference. Discussion was opened, but there was none. A motion was made and seconded that APT give \$200 to the Reading Support Team for books. An oral vote was taken and the motion passed.

Special Presentation – Portage School Budget

Tom Vance, Community Relations Manager for Portage Public Schools was the presenter. Dale Posthumus, Vice President, Portage Board of Education, and Deb Polderman, Secretary, Portage Board of Education, were also present to help answer questions. Visit the district website <http://www.portageps.org> to view the powerpoint presentation. The district is seeking community input and requests that all households complete the online survey (available through the end of November). There is also an audio slide show describing how Michigan schools are funded. A community meeting on district budget concerns is scheduled for November 30, 6:30pm at West Middle School.

The great challenge is that the district has to plan for cuts in the current school year, potentially \$2.5 million. More funding cuts are expected for the next school year. Timeline for decisions is November – January for the 2009/10 school year and April 2010 for the 2010/11 school year. More information about the district budget will be posted online. There were many questions asked and lots of discussion. Board members will take this information back to their next meeting as they discuss the budget.

Announcements

- Cheesecake and scone samples were provided by the café at Barnes & Noble
- Upcoming Events
 - 11/18 & 19 Staff Appreciation for conferences
 - 11/20 Movie Night, contact Kim Gates, gatormom@ctsmail.net
 - Holiday Art, contact Michele Sweat, MicheleASweat@aol.com
 - 12/3 Bookfair at Barnes & Noble, 5-9pm
 - 12/14 Enrichment, World Holiday Music assembly

Next Meeting

The next APT Meeting will be Tuesday January 19 at 7:00pm in the media center.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jennifer Gatz, Past President