

**APT Meeting Minutes for  
February 16, 2010 (Pending Approval)**

Heather Beering – President - The meeting was called to order at 9:00am. There were 19 people present. Welcomes and introductions were conducted. The January 2010 minutes were distributed and approved.

**Treasurer's Report: Julie Lawford**

The following Budget Reports were handed out: APT Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual August 2009 through January 2010 and the Amberly APT Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2010. Copies of these budget reports are available for review upon request.

**President's Report: Heather Beering**

Thank you- to Robin St. Arnauld, Heather Moore and Amberly Teachers for the Sensory Presentation at the January APT meeting. If you have recommendations for a speaker for the evening APT meetings, please contact Heather Beering. Marsha Wells, PPS Superintendent, will be the guest speaker at the March 16 APT meeting (7:00pm Media Center),

Thank you to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers for attending all three days/nights of camp with the fifth graders!!!

Tiger Trek the APT fundraiser is coming up in April. Information will be coming home soon. We are looking for celebrity walkers to cheer on the kids. Possible ideas include: school/business mascots, WMU sports teams/cheerleaders, etc. If you have suggestions, please contact Heather Beering.

**Past President: Jennifer Gatz**

Financial Audit: A committee is being formed to conduct a proactive financial audit of APT finances. This audit will be conducted in Fall 2010. A plan is currently being developed for this activity. If you can assist with this activity, please contact Jennifer Gatz.

**President Elect: Jeslyn Gordon**

Budget Committee Input Needed: The APT Budget Meeting will be March 18 at 1:00 in the Multipurpose Room. Budget input from Committees is requested prior to this meeting.

Committee/Board Positions for 2010/2011: Please contact Jeslyn Gordon if you are interested in an APT Committee or Board Position for 2010/2011 School year.

Staff Restroom Renovations: A committee has formed to spruce up the staff restrooms at Amberly. Recommended Proposals are currently being reviewed by PPS Utilities/Facilities.

**Committee Reports**

CIC Rita McKenzie: The January CIC meeting was canceled. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17th.

Enrichment Rita McKenzie: The Geo Science presentation originally scheduled for February 24th and 25th has been changed to April 28th and 29th. The WMU Chemistry Club Demonstration Program is still on for March 19th.

Math League Rita McKenzie: Students in the 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade Math League teams have completed Contest #2, results are on-line at [www.onlinemathleague.com](http://www.onlinemathleague.com). Contest #3 will be given in March. Math League will conclude for the school year by March 25th.

Staff Appreciation: Betsy Scheffel: Staff Appreciation will be held in the spring. This will be a kid centered event. Goodie/snack bags will be prepared for the teachers for February conferences. A breakfast will be held for the bus drivers.

3<sup>rd</sup> grade Jr. Great Books Anne Louise Coryell: Jr. Great Books has begun and is off to a great start.

Daddy Daughter Dance: Volunteers are needed to make Golden Graham Smores and to help decorate before the dance on February 19.

After School Enrichment Lara Hobson The Talent Show has had an influx of participants. The Wizard of Oz, Talent Show and the Achievement Expo will be presented on March 4 from 6:00 – 8:00pm. A “Teaser” for the Wizard of Oz will be presented to Amberly students on February 25.

### **Principal’s Report: Mary Daoust**

Staff Retirements: Six Amberly staff members have elected to take the retirement package offered by PPS. They will be leaving at the end of the current school year. These members, who were previously announced by the Kalamazoo Gazette, are: Mrs. Mann, Mrs. Derhammer, Mrs. Simunovic, Mrs. Stahel, Mr. Kiracofe, and Marcia Elliott. No staffing moves will be made until budget cuts are fully understood.

Confucius Institute at WMU provides new Chinese language and cultural studies options for WMU students/faculty and dramatically expands international opportunities for area K-12 schools. Amberly and Lake Center Elementary have submitted a proposal to CIC and the Confucius Institute. If approved, this partnership would provide funding for daily Chinese language instruction for kindergarten students. Instruction would be provided by Chinese teachers/students from WMU. If approved, an Open House will be held with parents of kindergarten students. An Opt-Out option will be available. If approved, this would be a three year pilot.

### **New Business**

Amberly’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Amberly will celebrate 50 years in the fall of 2010. We are looking for ideas for ways to celebrate. One idea is “50 Books for 50 Years.” Parents could select a “candle” with the name of a book on it and then donate money to purchase the book. If you would like to help out with this event, please contact Jennifer Gatz.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp – Thank you notes from the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students were passed around.

Mrs. Higgins thanked APT for continuing to send the kids for 3 days. She explained how at camp, it is a level playing field for everyone – no one sticks out. It gives kids a chance to see each other in a different light. Kids can excel that have never had that experience before.

Some parents expressed concern over going to camp in the winter due to the cold. Other parents were in favor of going at this time of the year. Mrs. Daoust explained how Amberly does not select the camp dates. The District Office assigns the camp dates. Mrs. Daoust will contract the District Office to review date options.

### **Announcements**

- 2/19/2010 Daddy/Daughter Dance
- 3/1/2010 9:00am, Tiger Trek –next planning meeting
- 3/4/2010 6:00-8:00pm Wizard of Oz, Talent Show, and Achievement Expo
- 3/19/2010 Movie Night, contact Kim Gates, [gatormom@ctsmail.net](mailto:gatormom@ctsmail.net)

### **Next Meeting**

The next APT Meeting will be Tuesday March 16 at 7:00pm in the Media Center. Marsha Wells, PPS Superintendant will be the guest speaker.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diane Hamlin, Secretary